

The Classic Manga Available in English in Its Entirety for the First Time!

BATMAN: THE JIRO KUWATA BATMANGA

VOLUME 1



DC
COMICS™

桑田次郎
JIRO KUWATA



BATMAN
THE JIRO KUWATA
BATMANGA
VOLUME 1

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Translation by **SHELDON DRZKA**

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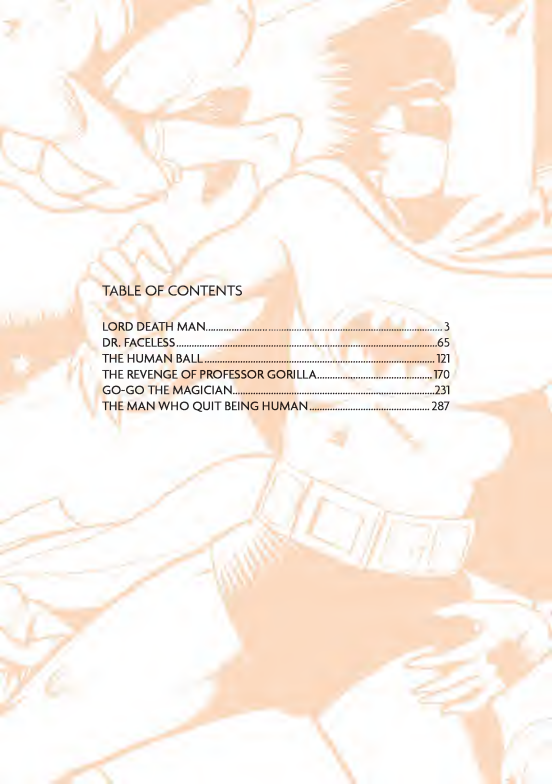


TABLE OF CONTENTS

LORD DEATH MAN.....	3
DR. FACELESS.....	65
THE HUMAN BALL.....	121
THE REVENGE OF PROFESSOR GORILLA.....	170
GO-GO THE MAGICIAN.....	231
THE MAN WHO QUIT BEING HUMAN.....	287

NEW

SERIES

バットマン

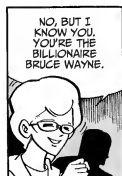
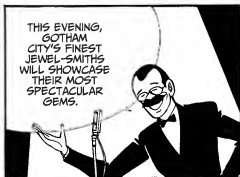
★ Chapter 1: LORD DEATH MAN ★

Even the strongest and wildest
villains are no match for Batman
and Robin, the Boy Wonder! But then
a monster that dwells in a nightmare
appeared! Perk up your ears, you can
hear him now... "Hee hee hee hee..."

Lord Death Man is here!

Jiro Kuwata







SFX: BLINK



JUST THEN, AS IF FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL, A LAUGH RANG THROUGH THE AUDITORIUM...

SFX: HBBBHHHHHHHH



21



20



23

HEE
HEE HEE...
I AM LORD
DEATH
MAN!



22

LOOK AT THEM
ALL! WHAT DOES
THIS MEAN?



24

IF
ANYONE
TRIES TO
MAKE A
MOVE...

EVERYONE,
STAY RIGHT
WHERE YOU
ARE.



OH! HOW
GHASTLY!

AGH--!
SKELETONS
ON THE
CEILING!



27

AGH!!

SFX: BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA



26

SFX: BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA

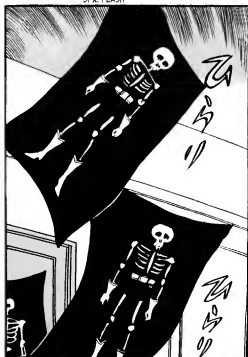
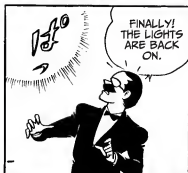


25

YOU'LL
GET A
TASTE OF
THIS!

SFX: HEEHEEHEE





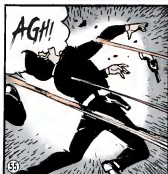


SFX: BLAM SFX: BLAM

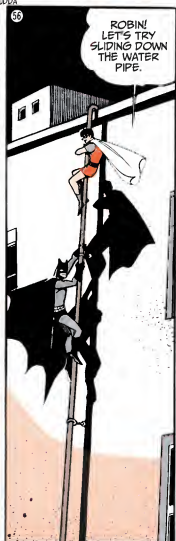
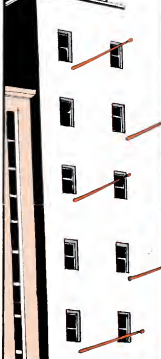


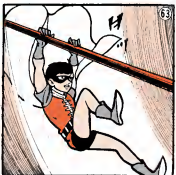
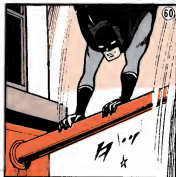
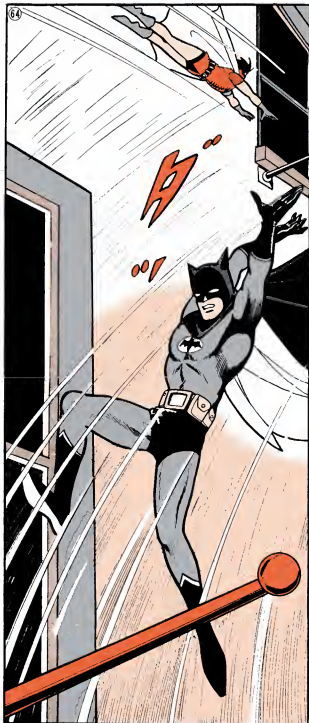
SFX: VROOOO

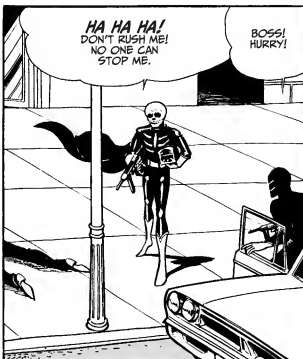




SFX: BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA



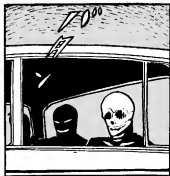




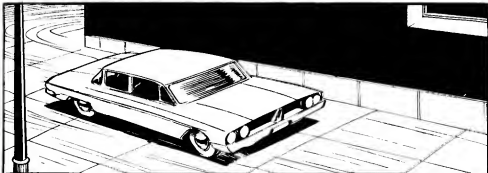
SFX: WHUD

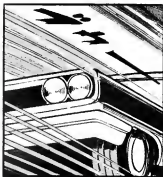
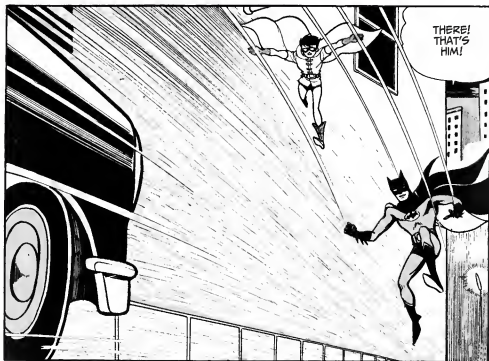


SFX: VROOOO



SFX: SLAM



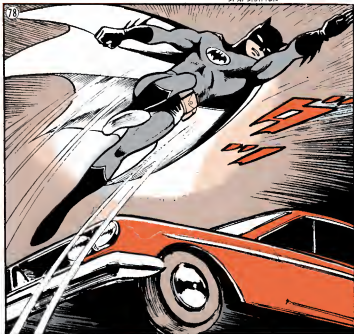


SFX: VRRRR





SFX: SHATTER



SFX: SWISH



FOOL! DON'T
LET GO OF
THE STEERING
WHEEL!



LORD
DEATH
MAN'S
CAR JUST
RAN
INTO THE
WALL!

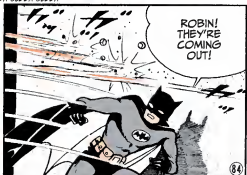




SFX: BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA



SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: BAM BAM BAM



SFX: FWOOSH

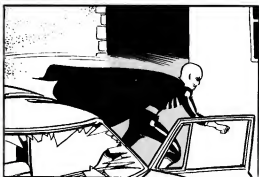
SFX: KRAK KRAK



SFX: WOK



SFX: SWISH



SFX: WOK



SFX: CRASH

SFX: KRAK



SFX: BLAM



SFX: TAK TAK TAK



SFX: FWP FWP



SFX: ZING



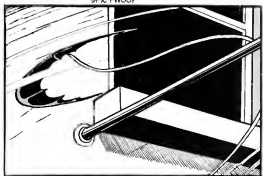
SFX: FWH

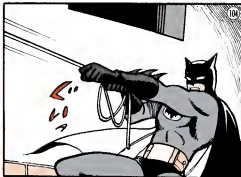


WHA--?



SFX: FWOOP

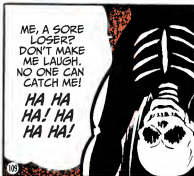




OH, DON'T
BE A SORE
LOSER.



YOU
THINK THIS
MEANS YOU
GOT ME.

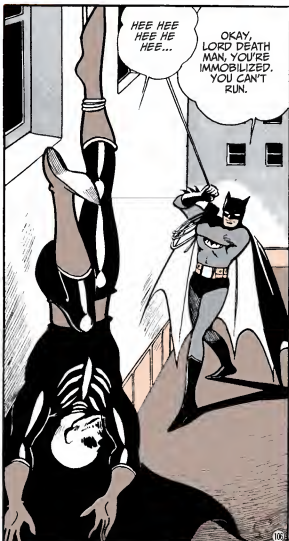


ME, A SORE
LOSER?
DON'T MAKE
ME LAUGH.
NO ONE CAN
CATCH ME!

**HA HA
HA! HA
HA HA!**

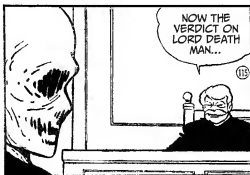
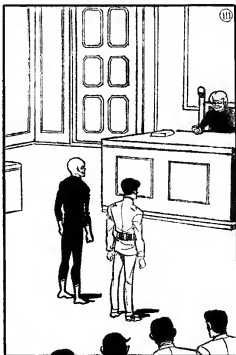


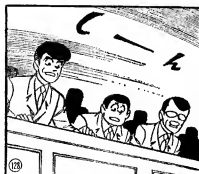
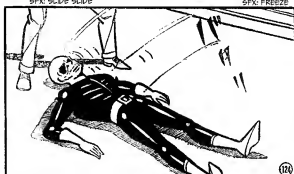
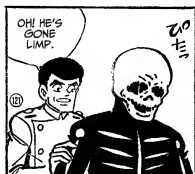
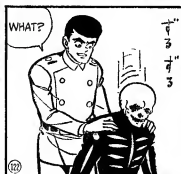
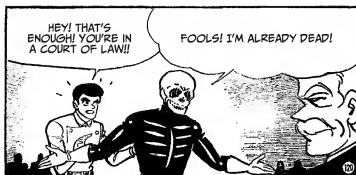
OH, REALLY?
WELL, YOU
LOOK PRETTY
CAUGHT TO ME.
JUST HOW
DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO
ESCAPE?



HEE HEE
HEE HE
HEE...

OKAY,
LORD DEATH
MAN, YOU'RE
IMMOBILIZED.
YOU CAN'T
RUN.

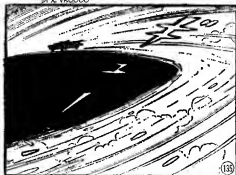
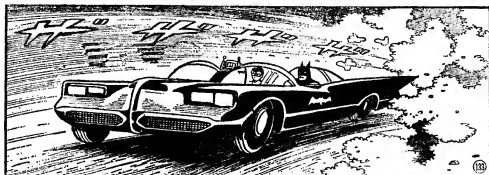


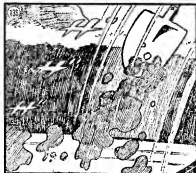


SFX: SHOCK



THE NEWSFLASH ABOUT LORD DEATH MAN'S UNCANNY DEMISE REACHES BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...

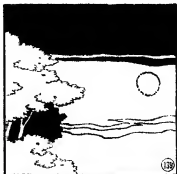




SFX: CHUFF



HOWEVER,
THAT NIGHT...



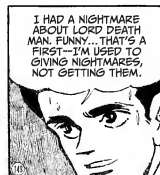
SFX: HEHEHEHEHEHE

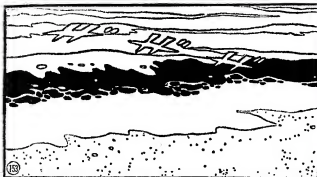


SFX: NEEHEEHEEHEE

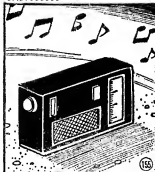


SFX: SWISH





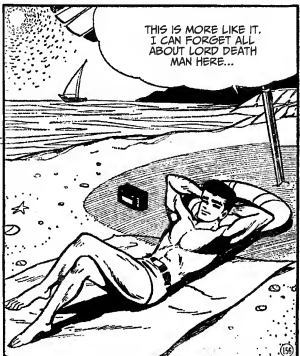
SFX: F555555

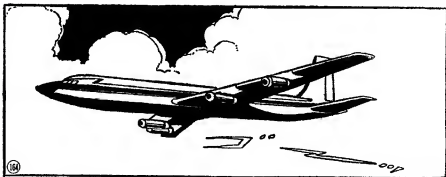
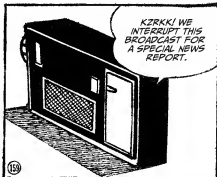
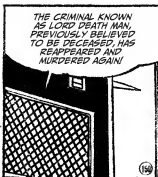


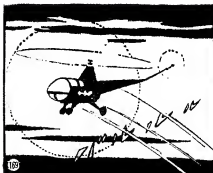
SFX: SPLASH!



GEE, BRUCE,
ANOTHER NAP?







SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP



THERE'S NEWS ON
THE APB WIRE.

ALMOST
THERE!



THE CHANGE
TO BATMAN
AND ROBIN
IS SWIFT!



SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP



SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP



NOT A
MOMENT TO
LOSE!

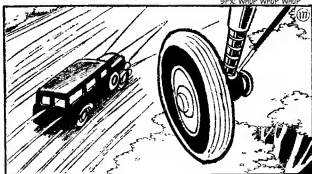
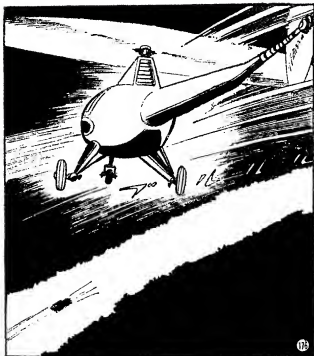
HE'S
STRUCK
AGAIN!

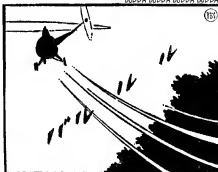


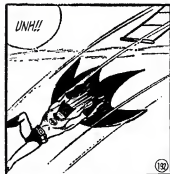
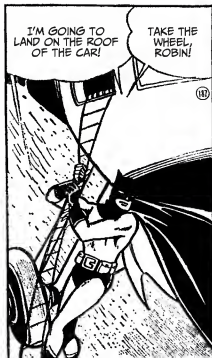
GOT IT!
CHANGING
COURSE TO
ROUTE 66.

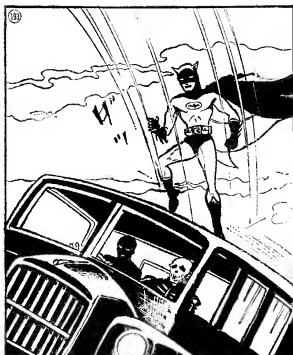


LORD DEATH MAN
AND HIS GANG ARE
HEADED TOWARD
ROUTE 66 IN A BLACK
HEARSE! THEY'RE
ON THE RUN!





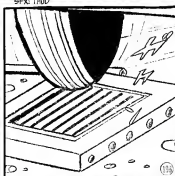




SFX: THUD



SFX: SLIP



SFX: RATTLE





SFX: WHUMP



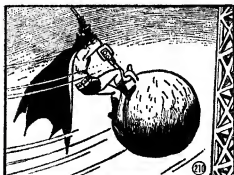
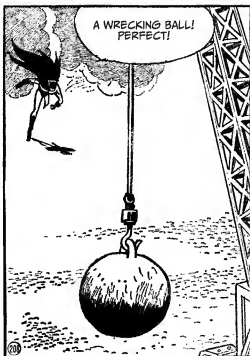
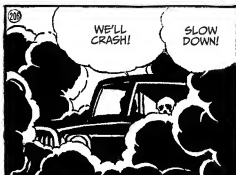
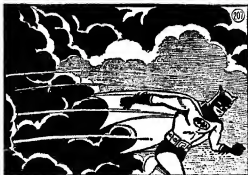
SFX: WHOOSH

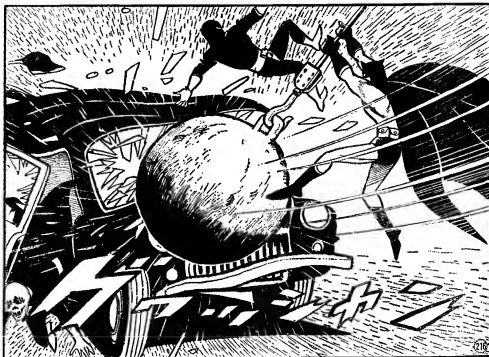


SFX: FWOOF FWOOF

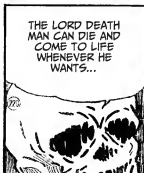


SFX: FWOOF





SPX: CRASH



バットマン

LORD DEATH MAN Part 2

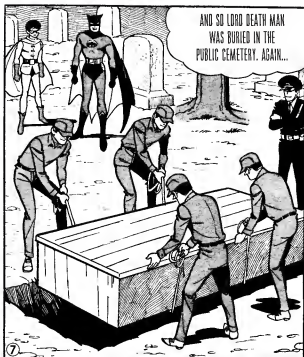


Jiro Kuwata

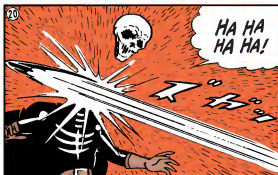
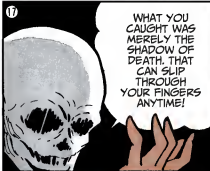


PREVIOUSLY: THE VILLAINOUS LORD DEATH MAN, CAPTURED BY BATMAN, SUDDENLY STOPPED BREATHING IN THE COURTROOM IN FRONT OF MANY WITNESSES. THEN HE WAS BURIED IN GOTHAM CEMETERY. HOWEVER, HE CAME BACK TO LIFE AND KILLED AGAIN SO BATMAN RECAPTURED HIM, AND JUST WHEN HE THOUGHT HE HAD HIM, LORD DEATH MAN COLLAPSED AND DIED AGAIN.



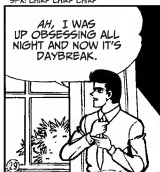
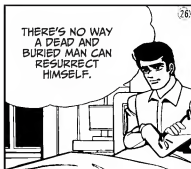


SFX: HEEHEEHEE



SFX: CHOK

SFX: FWOOO







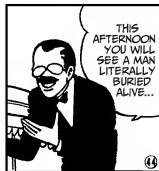
SFX: SNORE SNORE



SFX: ZZZZ

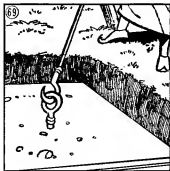
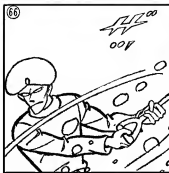
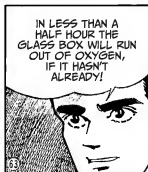
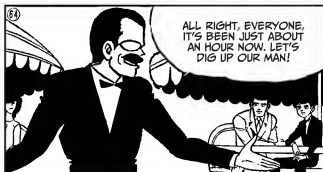
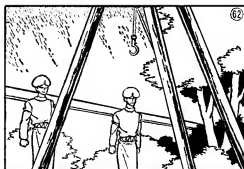


SFX: SWISH









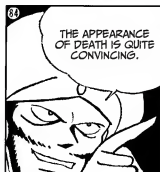


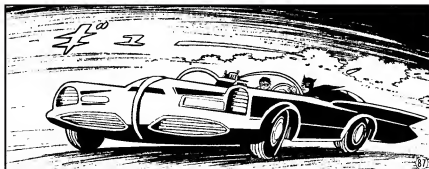
77

AH! HE'S
GRINNING!



SFX: SNEER





SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: FWOOOO



CEMETERY HEADSTONES:
HERE LIES LORD DEATH MAN



SFX: VRRRRR





SFX: HA HA HA HA HA!

A NUCLEAR-POWERED CAR! A RAY GUN! HE'S AWESOME! HE'S STRONG!

THIS CHAMPION OF
JUSTICE IS...

バットマン

VS.
★ LORD DEATH MAN ★
CHAPTER 3

WHETHER IN AMERICA OR JAPAN...

...HE'S TV'S MOST POPULAR STAR, BATMAN!





ROBIN



BATMAN



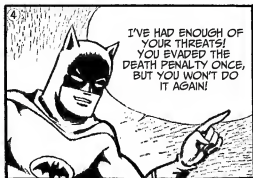
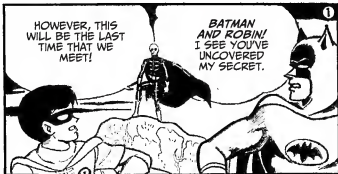
DICK GRAYSON



BRUCE WAYNE



JUST BEFORE HE IS TO BE EXECUTED, LORD DEATH MAN USES SECRET YOGA TECHNIQUES TO STOP HIS HEART AND BREATHING, SIMULATING DEATH. ONCE BURIED, HIS HENCHMEN DIG HIM UP WHEN THE COAST IS CLEAR.

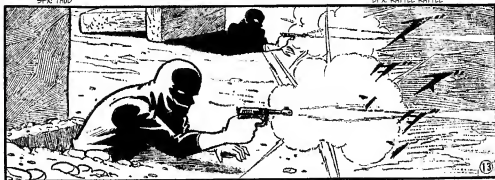




SFX: THUD



SFX: RATTLE RATTLE



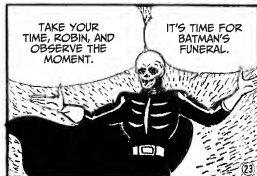
SFX: BLAM BLAM



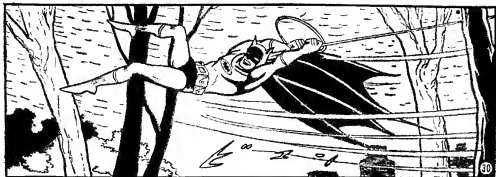
SFX: BLAM



SFX: ZING ZING ZING







SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: SWOOP



32



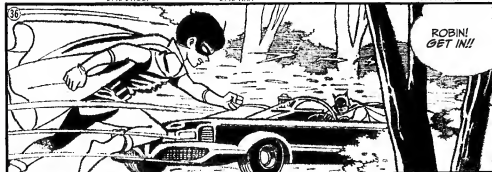
31



SFX: WAK

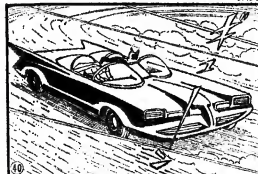


SFX: FWISH





SFX: SWISH



SFX: SKREEE



SFX: BLAM BLAM



SFX: VRRRR



SFX: BLAM BLAM



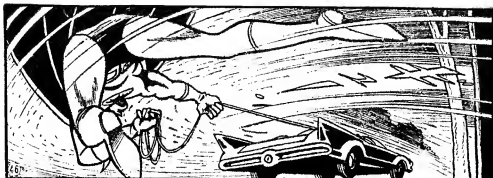
SFX: SWOOSH

SFX: SKREEE

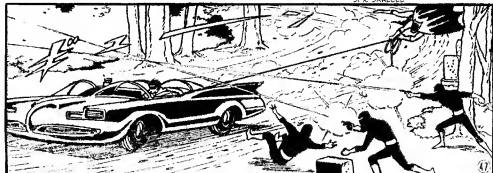


SFX: SKREEE
SFX: YANK

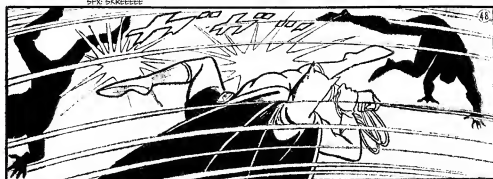




SFX: SKREEEE



SFX: SKREEEEEE



SFX: WHAK

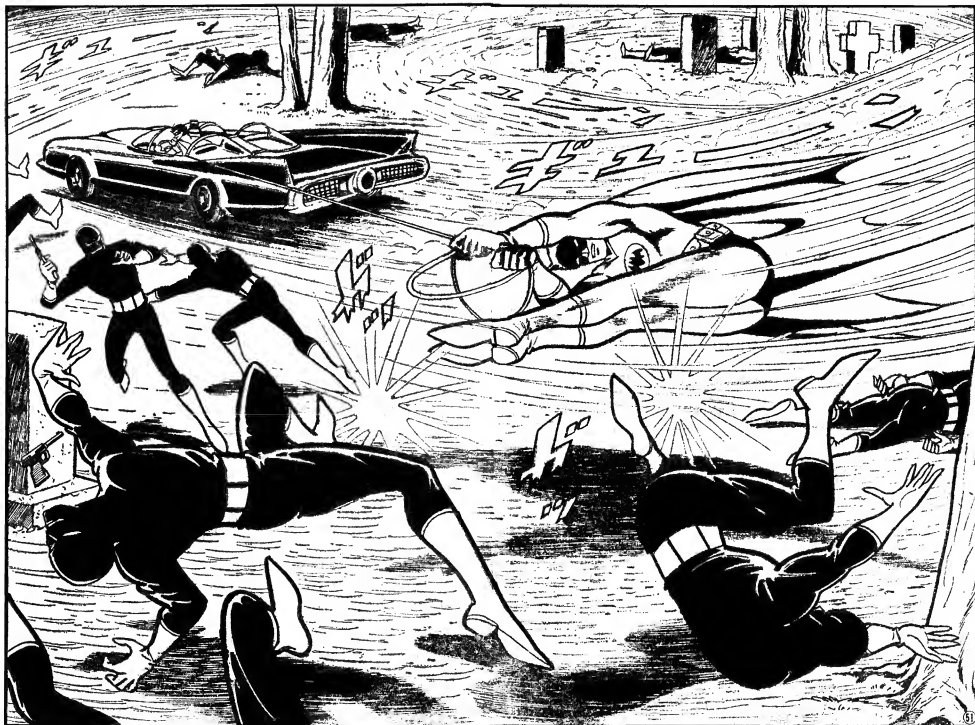


SFX: SKREEEE



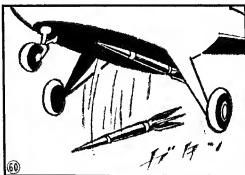
SFX: SKREEE

SFX: YANK





SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP

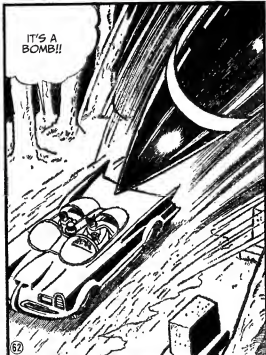


SFX: CHIK

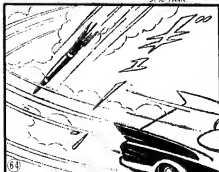
SFX: CLIK



SFX: YANK



IT'S A BOMB!!



SFX: SKREEEE



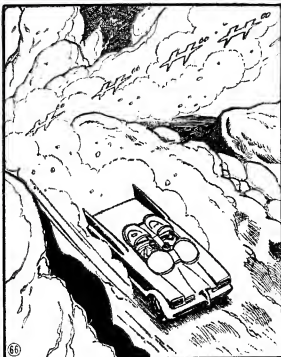
SFX: WHOOOM



SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP



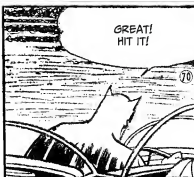
SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP



SFX: FOOOOOOOO



SFX: CHIK



GREAT!
HIT IT!



I'VE GOT
THE SMOKE
SCREEN READY!





SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP



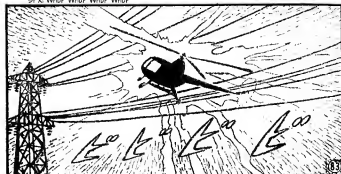
SFX: P00000



SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP



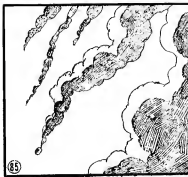
SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP

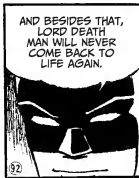
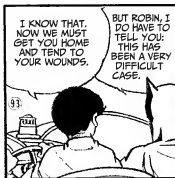


SFX: ZZZZZT

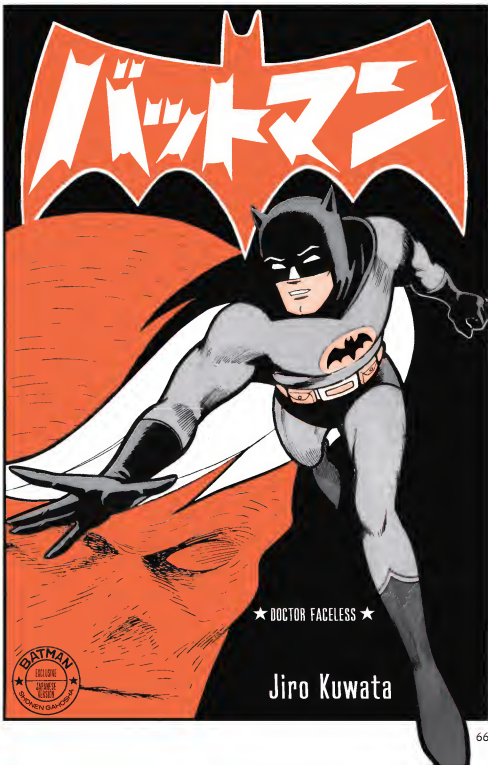


SFX: KABOOM





SFX: WHIZZZZ

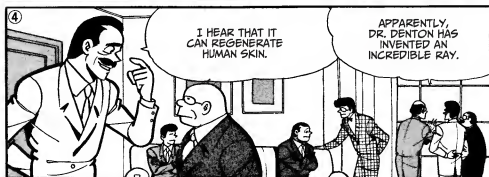


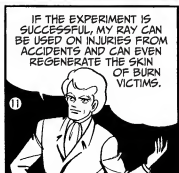
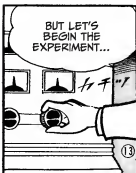
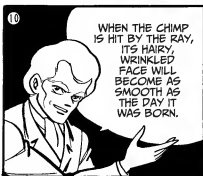
★ DOCTOR FACELESS ★

Jiro Kuwata



SIGN: DENTON RESEARCH FACILITY





SFX: CLICK



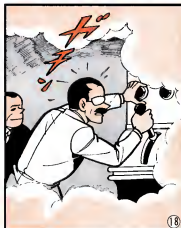
SFX: BOOM



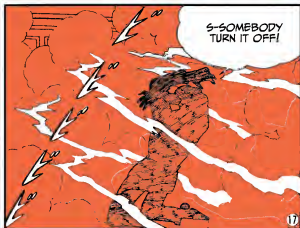
SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP



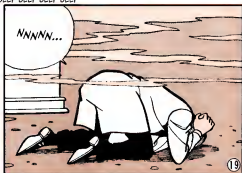
AH!
DOCTOR
DENTON!



SFX: CLANK

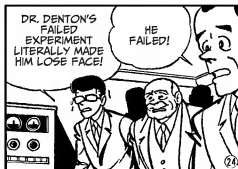


SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP





SFX: CRASH





SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP



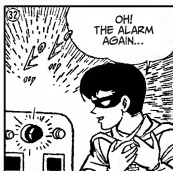
I SEE.
UNDERSTOOD!

IT SEEMS
HE'S GONE MAD
AFTER A FAILED
EXPERIMENT
RUINED HIS FACE.
I'D LIKE YOU
TO FIND HIM
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.



BATMAN,
THIS DOESN'T
INVOLVE A CRIME,
BUT THE FAMOUS
DR. DENTON HAS
GONE MISSING.

HELLO, CHIEF.
WHAT CAN I
DO FOR
YOU?



OH!
THE ALARM
AGAIN...

SFX: BEEP BEEP



WE HAVE
TO LOCATE
DR. DENTON
BEFORE HE
DOES COMMIT
A CRIME...



LET'S GO, ROBIN! I
DON'T KNOW WHETHER
OR NOT THAT MAN IS
DR. DENTON, BUT...



HELLO? WHAT IS IT? THERE'S
A MAN TAKING POTSHOTS
WITH A RIFLE IN DOWNTOWN
GOTHAM?!



SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: BLAM BLAM

SFX: PING PING





SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: PING PING



SFX: BLAM BLAM



SFX: FINISH



HEY, LOOKS LIKE IT'S THE GOOD DOCTOR AFTER ALL!



WE'VE COME TO HELP YOU.

DON'T DO IT, DOCTOR!



SFX: BLAM

SHUT UP, I SAID! I'M GOING TO WIPE ALL FACES OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!

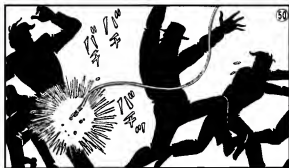


YOUR FACE CAN BE FIXED WITH PLASTIC SURGERY!

PUT THE RIFLE DOWN AND LISTEN TO ME.



SILENCE! INTERFERE WITH ME AND I'LL SHOOT.



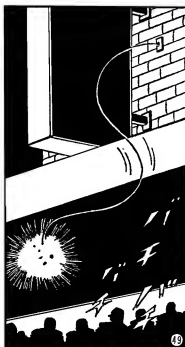
SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE



IF THE CABLE HITS ANY PEDESTRIANS, THEY'LL BE ELECTROCUTED!



UH-OH! ONE OF HIS SHOTS SLICED THROUGH A HIGH-VOLTAGE WIRE!



SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE



SFX: FINISH



SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE



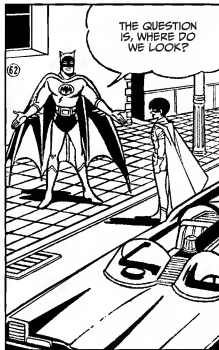
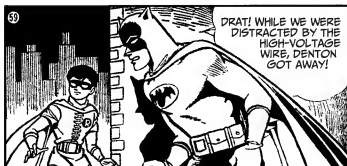
SFX: FWUP



SFX: SNAP



SFX: WHIZZZ





SFX: SHUT



SFX: POOF

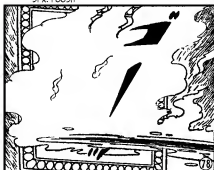




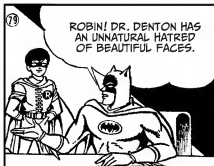
SFX: THUD



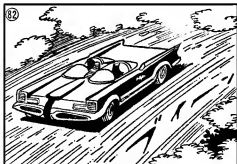
SFX: FOOSH



SFX: WHOOSH



MEANWHILE...

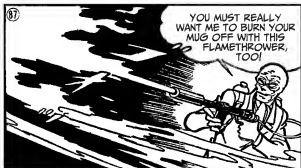


SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: BOOOOSH





SFX: POOSH



SIGN: FIRE EXTINGUISHER

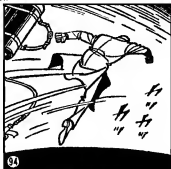
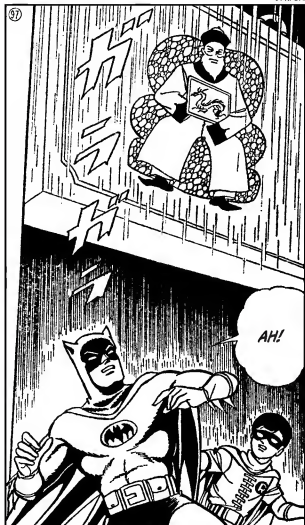


SFX: FSSST



SFX: CRACK









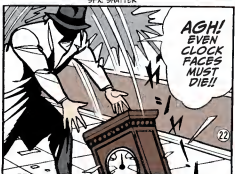
SFX: BOOM



SFX: SWISH

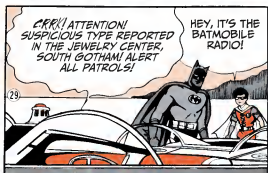
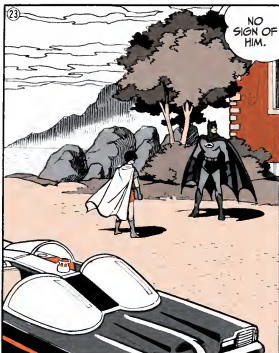


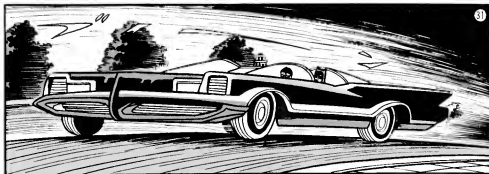




SFX: SWASH

SFX: CRACK





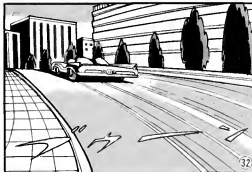
31

SFX: WHOOSH



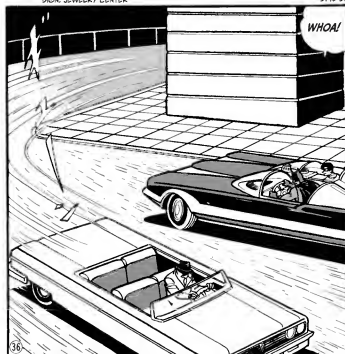
33

SIGN: JEWELRY CENTER

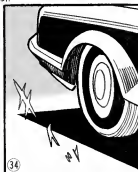


32

SFX: SWISH



WHOA!



34

SFX: SCREECH

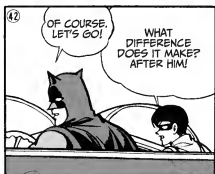
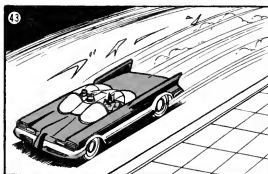
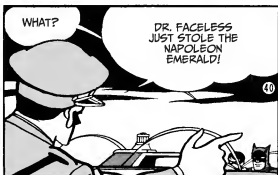


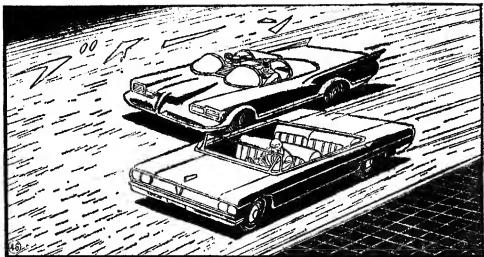
35

WELL, HERE WE ARE...

36

SFX: VRRR





SFX: WHOOSH

BATMAN. HE'S A
TOTAL LUNATIC.
THERE'S NO USE TRYING
TO REASON WITH HIM.



NO! I HATE THE WAY
THE FACES REFLECT
ON THIS THING!

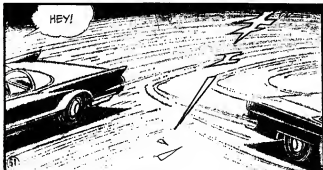


GIVE IT
BACK!

DR. DENTON!
LISTEN TO ME!
YOU HAVE NO USE
FOR THAT GEM!



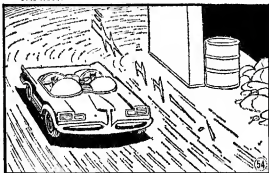
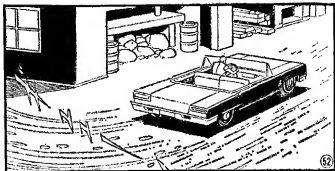
HEY!

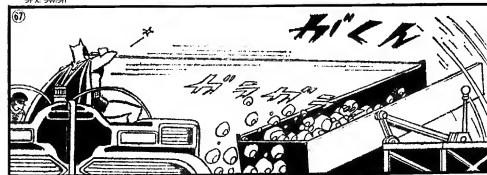
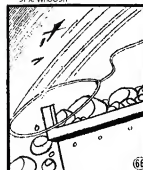
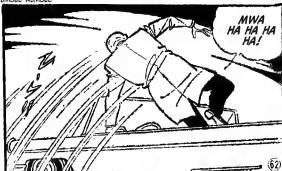
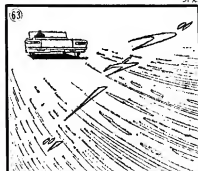
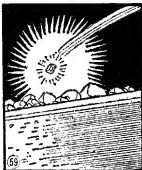
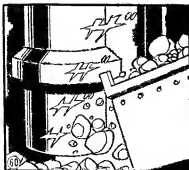


WOO HA HA! YOU PLAN
ON CATCHING ME AND
TAKING THIS BACK?
GOOD LUCK!



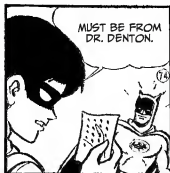
SFX: VRRRR

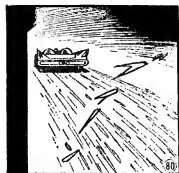




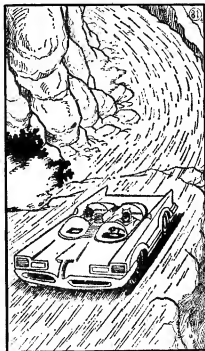
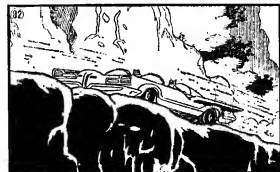
SFX: CLATTER CLATTER

SFX: WOBBLE





SFX: WHOOSH



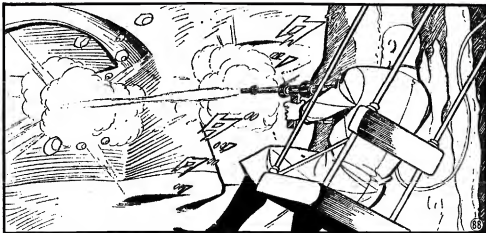


SFX: FWHISH

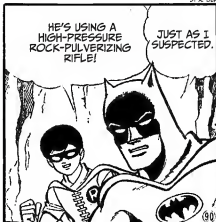


SFX: BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM



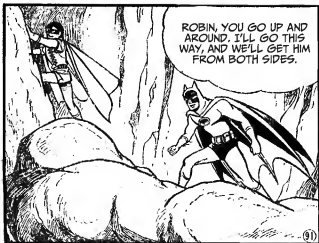


SFX: BLAM BLAM BLAM

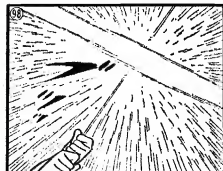
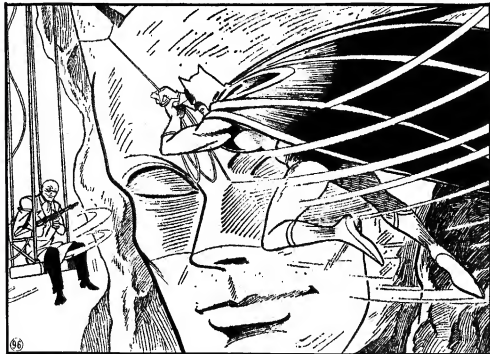
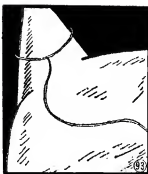


HE'S USING A
HIGH-PRESSURE
ROCK-PULVERIZING
RIFLE!

JUST AS I
SUSPECTED.



ROBIN, YOU GO UP AND
AROUND. I'LL GO THIS
WAY, AND WE'LL GET HIM
FROM BOTH SIDES.

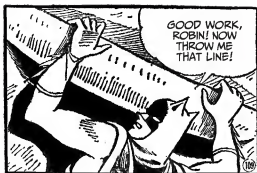


SFX: SNAP



SFX: BLAM



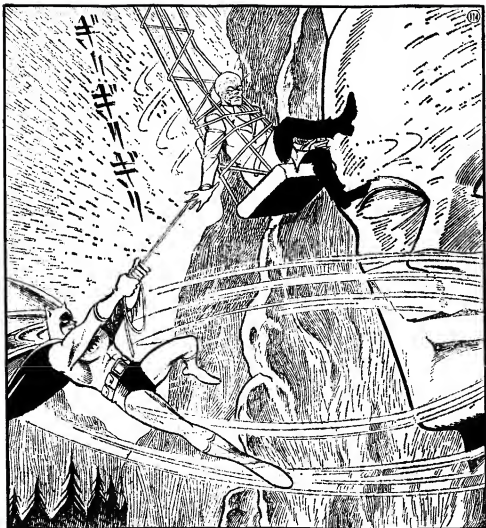


SFX: FWISH

SFX: YANK



SFX: SWISH



SFX: WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL

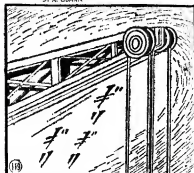




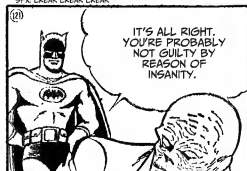
SFX: CLANK



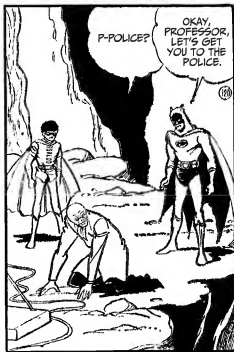
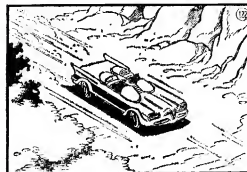
DOWN
WE GO...



SFX: CREAK CREAK CREAK



IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU'RE PROBABLY
NOT GUILTY BY
REASON OF
INSANITY.

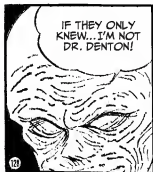


P-POLICE?

OKAY,
PROFESSOR,
LET'S GET
YOU TO THE
POLICE.



THAT
NIGHT AS
DR. DENTON
SITS IN
ISOLATION...





MY FRIEND'S PISTOL
HAS A NASTY HABIT
OF MAKING HOLES
IN PEOPLE.



I DON'T CARE.
DO AS I TELL YOU,
DR. DENTON.

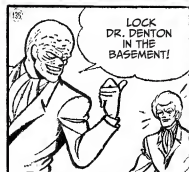
N-NO! THE SKIN
REGENERATOR
LASER IS STILL IN
ITS EXPERIMENTAL
PHASE!



THE SKIN ON MY
HEAD WAS ALL
FESTERED, AND
MY HAIR AND
EYEBROWS
MELTED!



SO HE ACTIVATED IT.
BUT THEN SOMETHING
AWFUL HAPPENED
WHEN THE BEAM
HIT ME!



LOCK
DR. DENTON
IN THE
BASEMENT!



DON'T WORRY!
I'VE JUST THOUGHT
OF THE PERFECT
CRIME, USING
THIS FACE.

I YELLED
AT MY
DROP-
JAWED
GOONS!

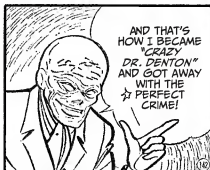
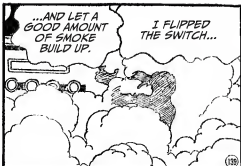


WHEN YOU GIVE THEM
A REASON, THEY'RE
ALL TOO EAGER
TO GATHER.

AND THEN I
INTRODUCED
"MY" NEW
INVENTION TO
THE PRESS.

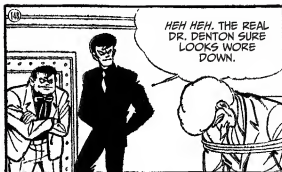


I QUICKLY FASHIONED
A PLASTIC MASK
OF DENTON AND
PUT IT ON, POSING
AS HIM.





OF COURSE
HE DOES. WE
HAVEN'T FED
HIM FOR
DAYS!



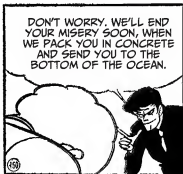
HEH HEH. THE REAL
DR. DENTON SURE
LOOKS WORE
DOWN.

JUST THEN, IN
THE BASEMENT
OF DR. DENTON'S
RESEARCH LAB,
MORGAN'S
GOONS PREPARE
TO HATCH A
TERRIBLE PLAN.



LET'S
DO IT,
THEN.

THE
CEMENT IS
READY.



DON'T WORRY. WE'LL END
YOUR MISERY SOON, WHEN
WE PACK YOU IN CONCRETE
AND SEND YOU TO THE
BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.



CAN
WE?

I MEAN WE
CAN'T HAVE
TWO DOCTOR
DENTONS.

AS MORGAN'S HENCHMEN PREPARE TO CARRY OUT THEIR FOUL DEED...
BATMAN IS ON HIS WAY TO DENTON'S LAB! DOES HE KNOW WHAT EVIL LURKS THERE?
AND WILL HE BE IN TIME TO SAVE THE PROFESSOR?





バットマン

★ DOCTOR FACELESS Part 3 ★



Jiro Kuwata

LAST EPISODE...

Dr. Denton's face was destroyed in a skin-regenerating experiment... except it wasn't really Denton, but Phantom Thief Morgan! Morgan masqueraded as Dr. Denton, pretended to be insane, and went on a rampage, burning famous paintings at an art museum and crushing a valuable emerald, but Batman caught "Dr. Faceless" and turned him in to the police. Meanwhile, the real Dr. Denton was being held by Morgan's accomplices, who starved him for days and were about to murder him, then hide his corpse in concrete...



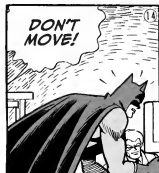
SIGN: DENTON RESEARCH FACILITY

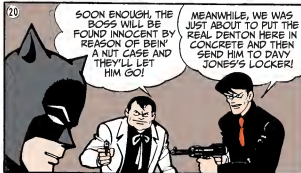


SFX: TAK TAK TAK



SFX: CREAK





SOMEWHERE!

(22)

I SEE. IT ALL FALLS INTO PLACE NOW. THE REAL REASON MORGAN MASQUERADED AS DR. DENTON AND THEN BURNED FAMOUS PAINTINGS AT THE ART MUSEUM AND PLUNDERED A JEWELRY STORE...

OH, WELL,
YOU'RE DYIN'
ANYWAY...



24

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GFX FLIGHT

SFX: BUDDA BUDDA

6FX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

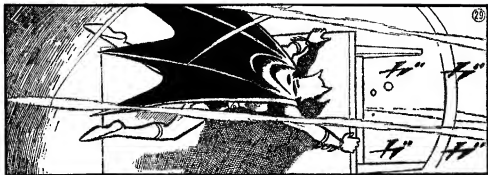
WAHAHA!
HOP AROUND ALL YOU WANT! THIS IS A MACHINE GUN, SO I'LL TAG YOU SOONER OR LATER!



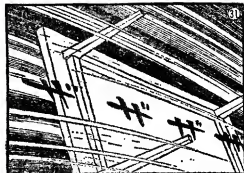
(27)

6PX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



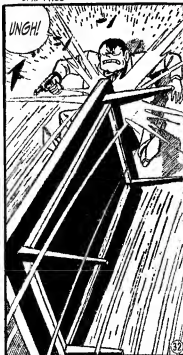
SFX: WHOOOSH!



SFX: FWOO



SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



SFX: WHUD

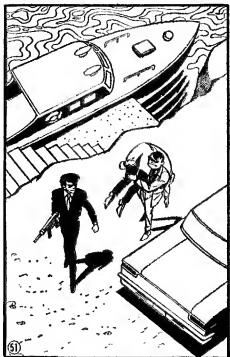
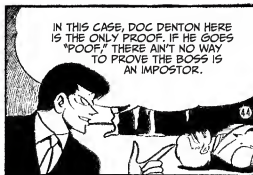
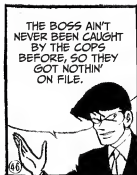


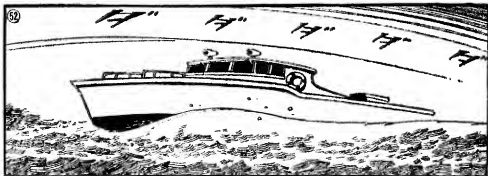
SFX: KRSHH



SFX: WHIZZ







SFX: VRRRRRRR

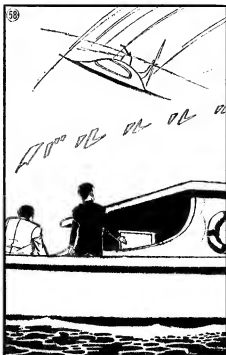


CHECK. ONCE HE GOES UNDER, HE AIN'T NEVER BOBBIN' UP AGAIN.



HEY, YOU GOT THE WEIGHT ATTACHED TO THE DOC?

HEH-HEH-HEH. THIS IS FAR ENOUGH.



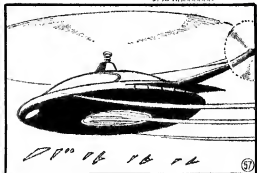
SFX: WHIRRRRR



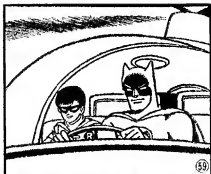
HUH?



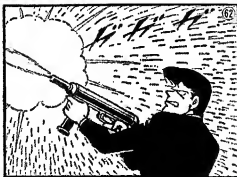
SFX: WHIRRRRRR



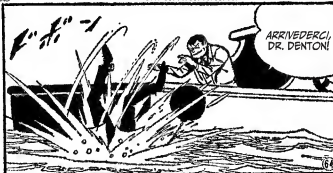
SFX: WHIRRRR



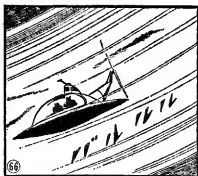
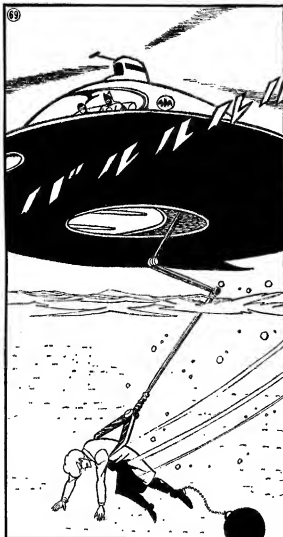
SFX: CLANG CLANG



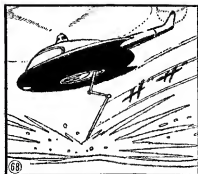
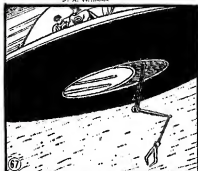
SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



SFX: SPLOOSH



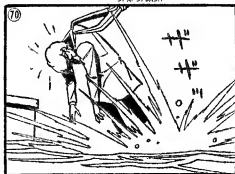
SFX: WHIRRR



SFX: SPLASH



SFX: SPLASH



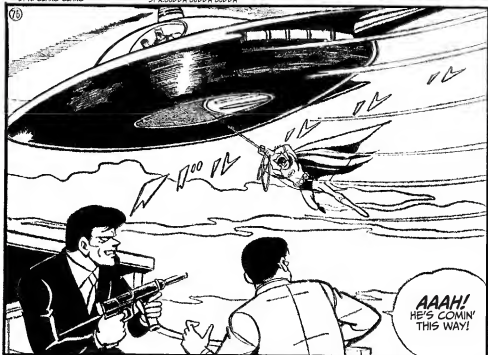
SFX: SPLASH



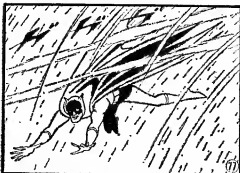
SFX: CLANG CLANG



SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



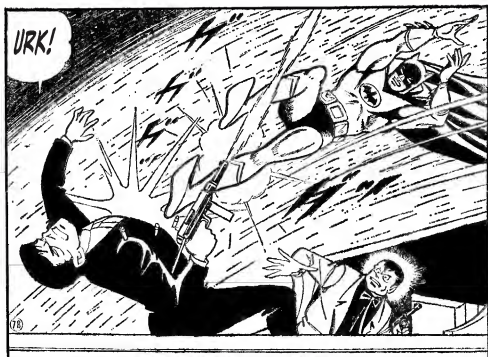
SFX: WHEEEEEEEEE



SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

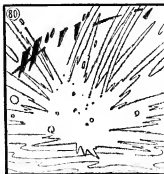


SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



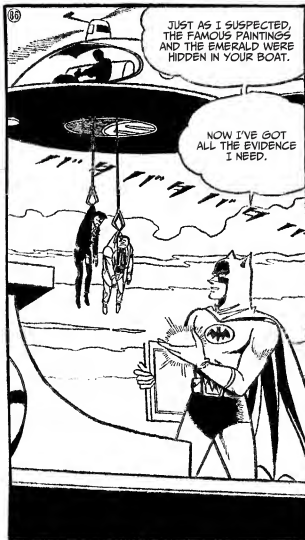
SFX: BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

SFX: WHUD

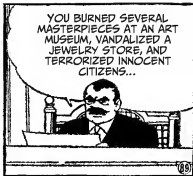
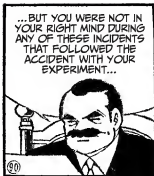
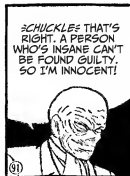


SFX: BLOOP BLOOP

SFX: SPLOOSH



SIGN: COURTHOUSE



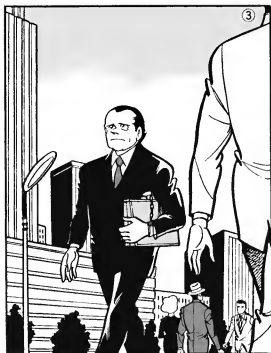


バットマン

★ THE HUMAN BALL ★

Jiro Kuwata





The man with a briefcase handcuffed to his arm is Bill, a jeweler.



At the same time, nearby pedestrians are becoming alarmed.



LOOK!
HE CROUCHED
INTO A BALL
WHILE FALLING!





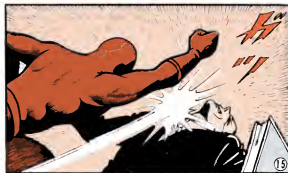
SFX: BOING



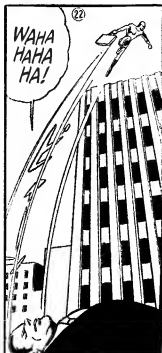
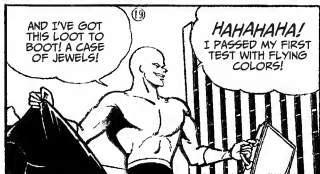
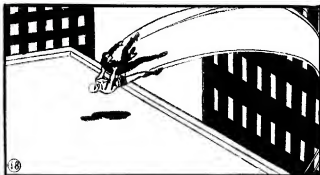
Just when the crowd thought he was going to splatter on the sidewalk, the man bounced off the concrete.



SFX: FINISH



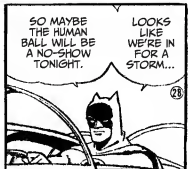
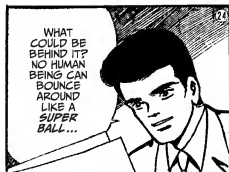
SFX: SOK



SFX: WHZZZ

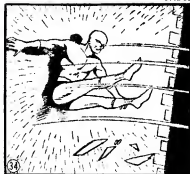
SFX: WHOOOSH

SFX: WHOOOSH





SFX: BLAM BLAM



SFX: BAM

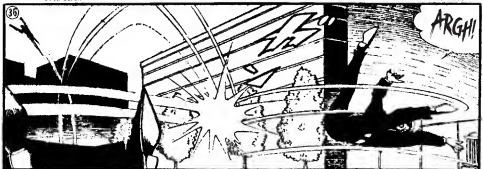


SFX: BLAM



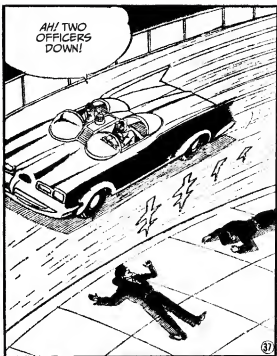
UNGH!

SFX: WHAP

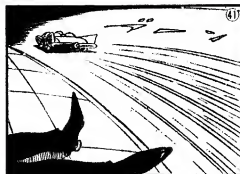


ARGH!

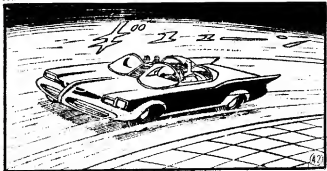
SFX: WHOK



SFX: SKREEE



SFX: FWOOSH



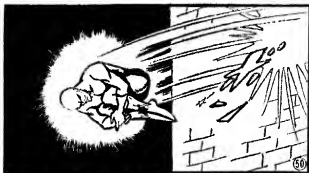
SFX: SKREEE



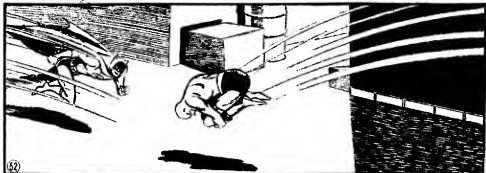
SFX: THAK



SFX: BOING



SFX: BOING



SFX: WHOK



SFX: BAW



SFX: WHIZZ



SFX: WHUMP



AH!
ROBIN!



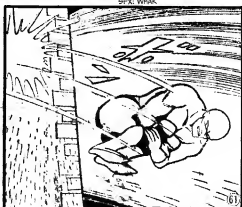
SFX: BONG BONG



SFX: WHAK



SFX: F'ING



SFX: BONG



SFX: WHUD



SFX: WHAK

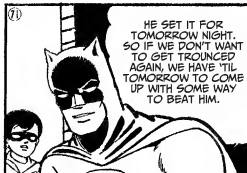


BATMAN!
I CAN TAKE NO PRIDE IN BEATING
YOU WHEN YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY
UNPREPARED. SO GET READY FOR
ONE MORE GO-ROUND AND COME
TO THE MUSEUM TOMORROW NIGHT.
--THE HUMAN BALL

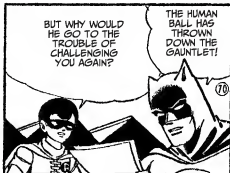
69



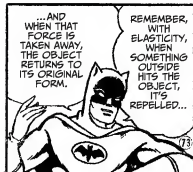
68



71



70



73



72

The caped crusaders return to the Batcave and brainstorm ideas...



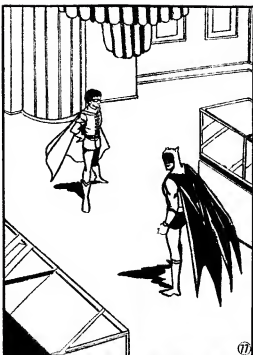
76



75



74



And so, when the next night came, Batman and Robin, the Boy Wonder, were waiting on the Human Ball at the museum...





バットマン

★ THE HUMAN BALL Part 2 ★



Jiro Kuwata

LAST EPISODE...

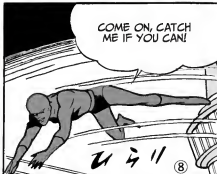
The mysterious Human Ball suddenly appeared. Possessing the bouncing, resilient properties of a ball, he began his criminal career with the theft of a briefcase full of precious stones from a jeweler (Bill).

Batman soon caught up to him but couldn't get his hands on the slippery character. In fact, both halves of the Dynamic Duo were clobbered by the Ball's powerful body. But the Human Ball challenged Batman and Robin once more, which takes us now to the museum, with the Human Ball about to crash through a window...





SFX: CRASH



SFX: FWISH



SFX: WHIZZZ



SFX: FWOO



SFX: KRANG





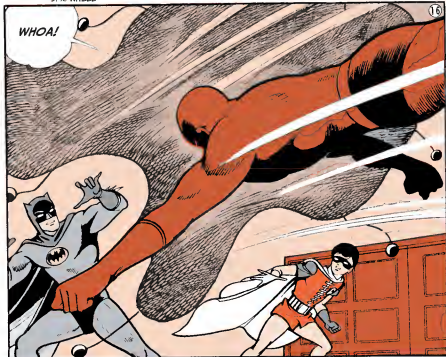
SFX: WHIZZ

13

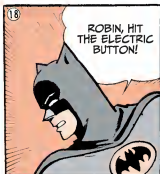


SFX: WHAK

14



Just then, Batman set his trap, a hidden net directly over the Human Bomb!



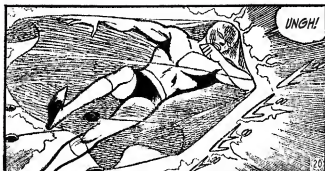
ROBIN, HIT THE ELECTRIC BUTTON!

16



WAAAAHAHA!
WHAT DO YOU
THINK I AM,
BATMAN, A
PARAKEET?!

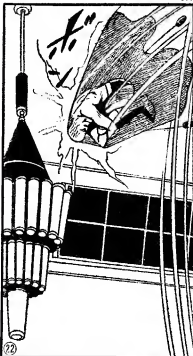
17



SFX: ZZZZZZZT



SFX: CLICK



SFX: BOING

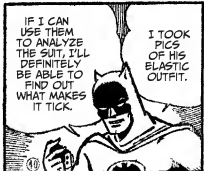


SFX: ZZZZZT

SFX: BOING

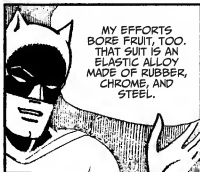
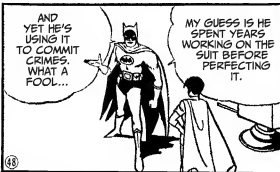
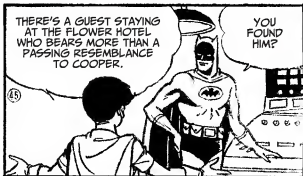








Meanwhile, Robin went around to hotels all over the city to hunt for Cooper, the master spy.





SFX: FINISH



SUCCESS?
OR YET
ANOTHER
FAILURE...?



Batman's intuition was right. Gagney, a young metallurgist, finally created an elastic alloy after working on it for many years.



YES!



SFX: BONG



The elastic alloy kept bouncing higher and higher until it was entirely out of sight.



Several months after that, Gagney had created an elastic suit made out of the very same alloy.



I DID IT!
IT WORKS!

SFX: WHIZZZZ



THIS SUIT IS AMAZING!
NO MATTER WHAT I SLAM AGAINST, I HARMLESSLY BOUNCE OFF IT!

57

SFX: WHAK



WAAAAHAHAHA!
ALL HAIL THE ELASTIC SUIT!

WITH THIS, I COULD BECOME THE RICHEST PERSON IN THE WORLD!

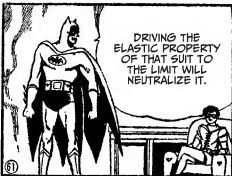
59



ARMIES ALL OVER THE WORLD WOULD DO ANYTHING TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THIS TECHNOLOGY!

58

SFX: BOING



DRIVING THE ELASTIC PROPERTY OF THAT SUIT TO THE LIMIT WILL NEUTRALIZE IT.

61

As for the Dynamic Duo's strategy to capture the Human Ball...



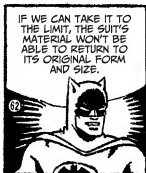
60

And so, the Human Ball made himself known to the world.



ALL RIGHT, THAT'S THE PLAN!

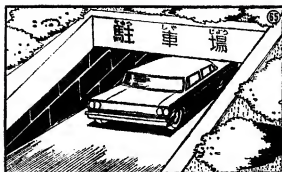
63



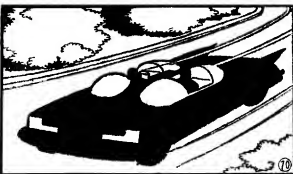
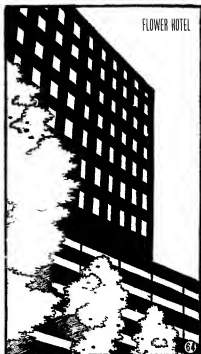
IF WE CAN TAKE IT TO THE LIMIT, THE SUIT'S MATERIAL WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO ITS ORIGINAL FORM AND SIZE.

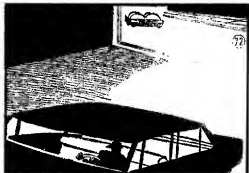
62

SFX: WHOOSH

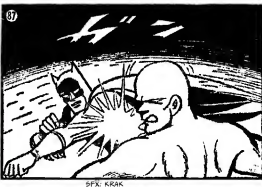
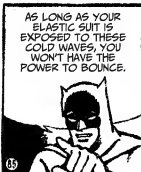
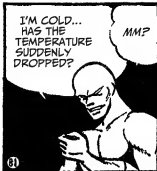


SIGN: PARKING LOT









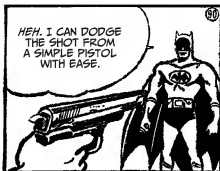


SFX: BLAM

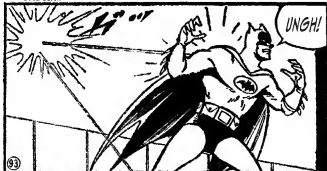
SFX: FWISH



SFX: BLAM



OH, NO! THE BULLET
RICOCHETED OFF
THE WALL AND
HIT BATMAN!



SFX: ZING

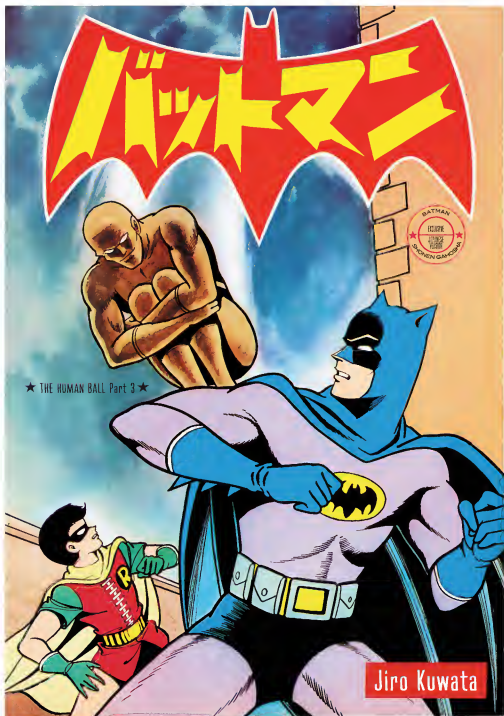


WAAAAHAHA! IMBECILE! MY BULLETS ARE
MADE OUT OF THE ELASTIC ALLOY TOO!
COLD AS IT WAS, YOU DIDN'T ACCOUNT FOR
THEIR GETTING THEIR ELASTICITY BACK
WITH THE HEAT OF THE GUNPOWDER!
WAAAAHAHA!

SFX: FWISH

SFX: STAGGER





★ THE HUMAN BALL Part 3 ★

Jiro Kuwata



LAST EPISODE...

Batman discovered that the suit worn by the Human Ball was made out of an elastic alloy formed from rubber, chrome, and steel. He also thought of a way to nullify its power.

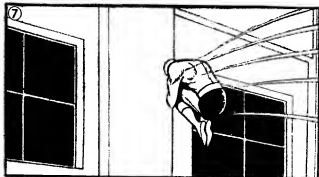
Batman and Robin hid electrodes under their uniforms, got the Human Ball between them, and hit his suit with a large dose of special freezing waves. The Human Ball lost elasticity in the suit but shot Batman with an elastic alloy bullet. Batman crumpled to the ground...



SFX: WHUMP



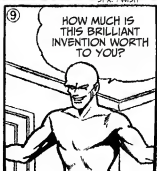
SFX: BONG



SFX: BOING

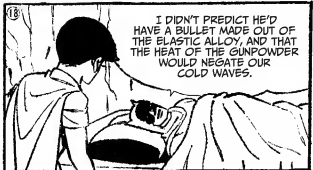
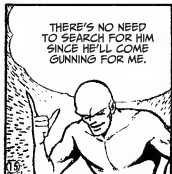


SFX: PUNISH



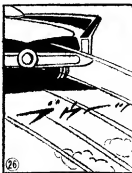
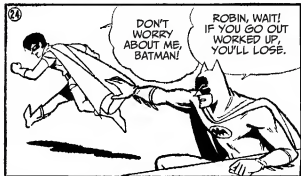


Batman didn't die, but he was grievously wounded.

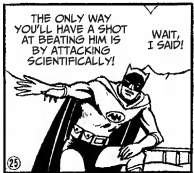


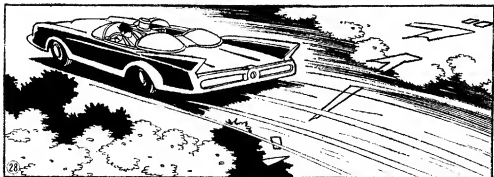


SFX: SLUMP

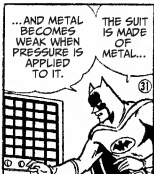


SFX: VROOO



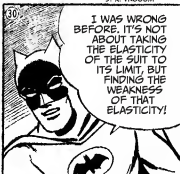


SFX: VROOM

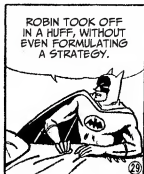


...AND METAL BECOMES WEAK WHEN PRESSURE IS APPLIED TO IT.

THE SUIT IS MADE OF METAL...



I WAS WRONG BEFORE. IT'S NOT ABOUT TAKING THE ELASTICITY OF THE SUIT TO ITS LIMIT, BUT FINDING THE WEAKNESS OF THAT ELASTICITY!



ROBIN TOOK OFF IN A HUFF, WITHOUT EVEN FORMULATING A STRATEGY.



ROBIN, BE SAFE UNTIL I GET THERE!

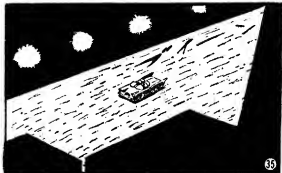


THAT'S IT! LIGHT AND ULTRASONIC WAVES!



...THAT CAN BE BROUGHT TO BEAR IN AN INSTANT.

BUT WE NEED POWERFUL PRESSURE...



SFX: VROOM

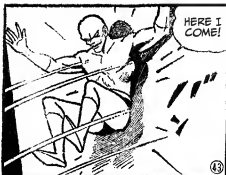


SFX: FWOOSH

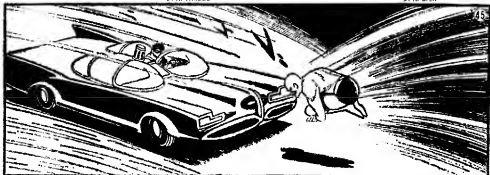




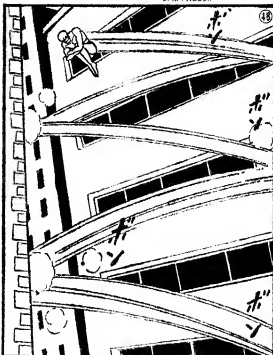
SFX: WHIZZZ



SFX: BAM



SFX: FWOOSH



SFX: BONG BONG BONG BONG

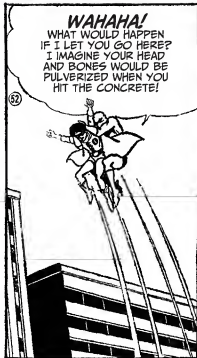


SFX: BONG

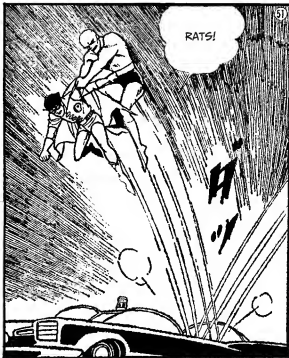




AND THE MORE
MOMENTUM I GAIN, THE
MORE POWERFUL MY
ATTACKS BECOME!



WAHAHA!
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN
IF I LET YOU GO HERE?
I IMAGINE YOUR HEAD
AND BONES WOULD BE
PULVERIZED WHEN YOU
HIT THE CONCRETE!

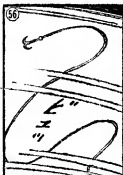
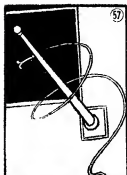


RATS!

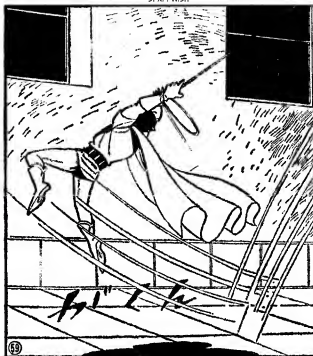
SFX: WHAM



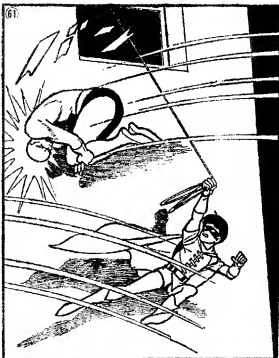
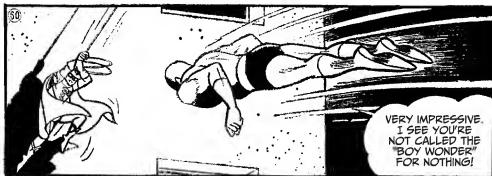
BUT
LET'S
SEE!

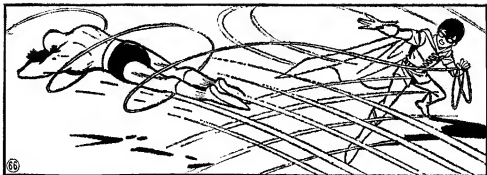


SFX: FWISH



SFX: SWISH





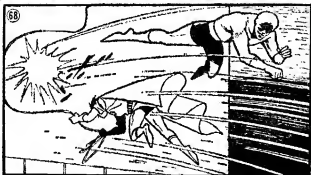
SFX: FWOOP



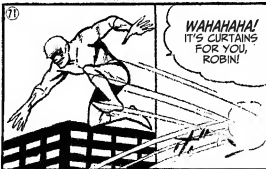
SFX: JERK



SFX: KRAK



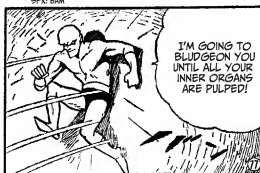
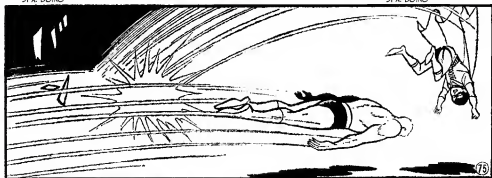
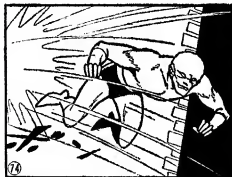
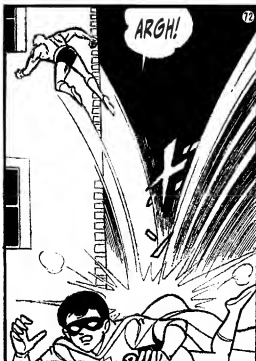
SFX: BOING

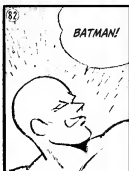


SFX: BOING



SFX: WHUMP



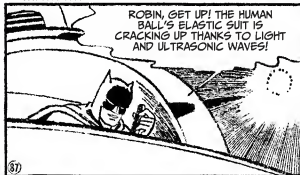




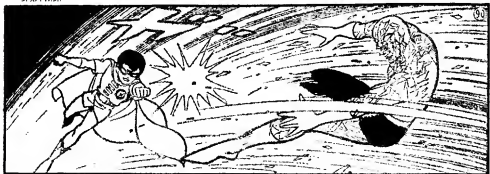
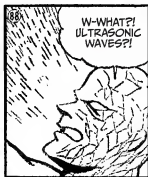
SFX: KKKK KKKK



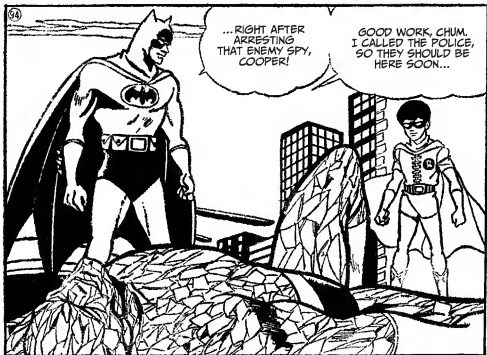
SFX: SKREEEE



SFX: FWHISH



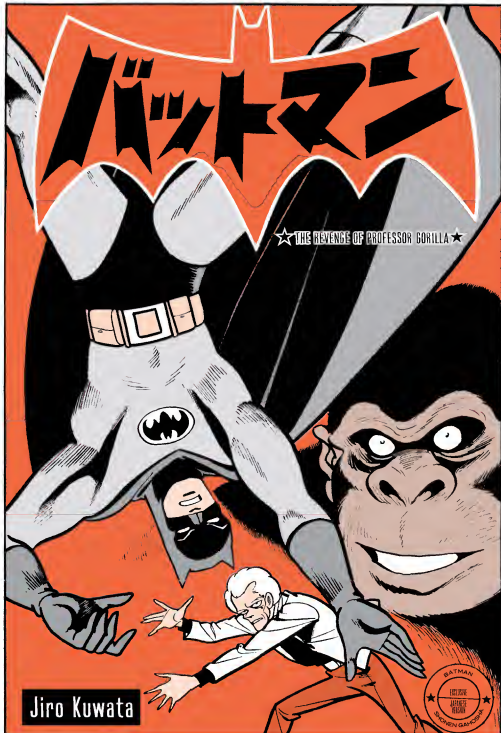
SFX: KRAK



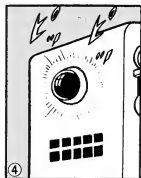


バットマン

★ THE REVENGE OF PROFESSOR GORILLA ★



Jiro Kuwata





SFX: WHOOSH



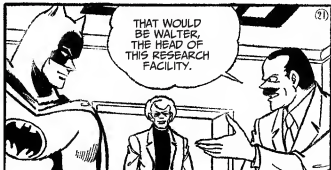
SIGN: WALTER SOMATOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

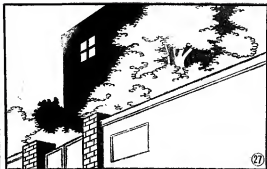


SFX: WHOOSH









That
night...



WAKE UP,
WALTER!
WAKE UP,
I SAY!



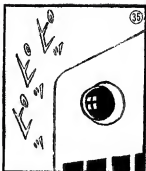
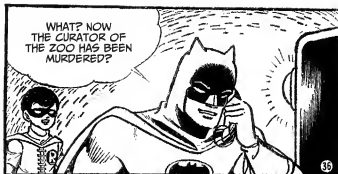
HUMANS ABDUCTED ME FROM
AFRICA...THEY MADE ME DANCE
LIKE A CLOWN AND BECOME A
LAUGHINGSTOCK...BUT MY REVENGE
AGAINST THEM HAS ONLY
JUST BEGUN!

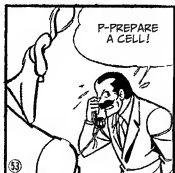


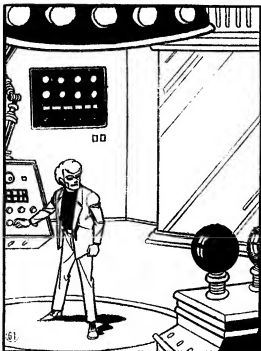
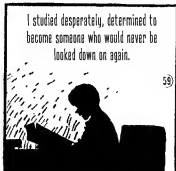
GO, WALTER.
IT'S TIME FOR
THE HUMANS TO
FEEL MY WRATH.



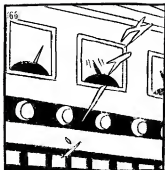
YOU WILL OBEY MY
COMMANDS! YOU'RE
GOING TO HELP ME
ACHIEVE VENGEANCE!



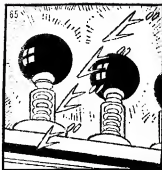




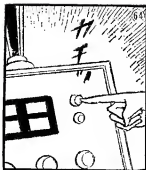
And so, I did research in this field for 30 years... until it paid off at last!



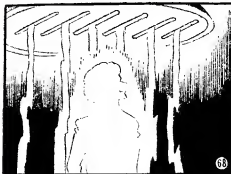
SFX: PUMMM



SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

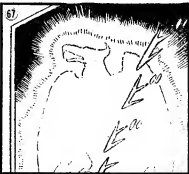


SFX: CLICK



68

I created a bio-transformation machine that converted the special abilities of animals into electricity, which would then be absorbed by human cells...



SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP

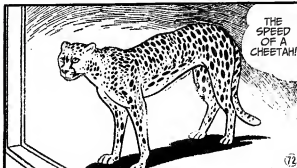


AND THE KEEN NOSE OF A DOG!



70

I NOW HAVE THE EYES OF AN EAGLE!



THE SPEED OF A CHEETAH!

72

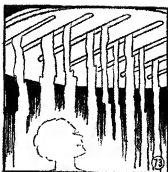


69

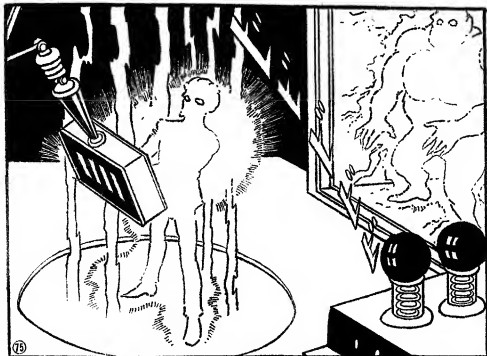
THE EXPERIMENT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. I CAN EVEN SEE LITTLE BIRDS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VALLEY!



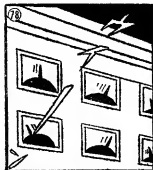
...and was going to make the awesome might of a gorilla my final acquisition.



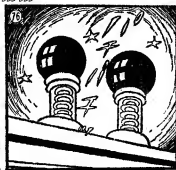
I absorbed the unique abilities of one animal after another...



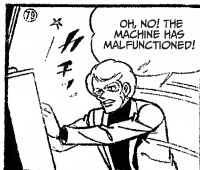
SFX: BEE BEE BEE BEE BEE



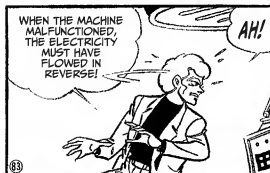
SFX: HUMMM



SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE



SFX: CLICK



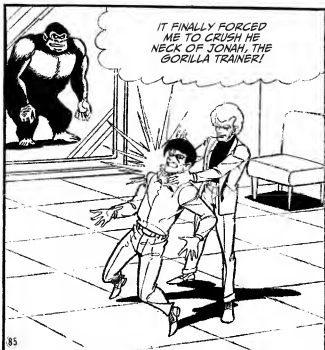
AND THAT'S NOT ALL. FROM THAT TIME ON, THE GORILLA HAS BEEN MIND-CONTROLLING ME.

IT GIVES ME ORDERS VIA TELEPATHY, ORDERS THAT I'M COMPELLED TO CARRY OUT!

UNTIL NOW, I'VE
ONLY BEEN FREE
TO ACT AS I
PLEASE WHEN THE
GORILLA SLEEPS.
WHEN IT WAKES
UP, I'M AGAIN
UNDER ITS
THRALL!



IT FINALLY FORCED
ME TO CRUSH THE
NECK OF JONAH, THE
GORILLA TRAINER!



W-WHAT'S
WRONG,
WALTER?!



U-URK...



T-THAT'S AN
UNBELIEVABLE
STORY...



AH...
I CAN'T...
CAN'T
RESIST...

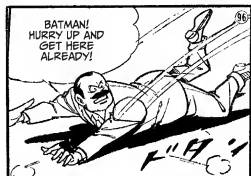
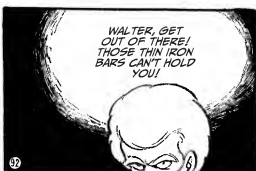
IT'S
ORDERING
ME...



BATMAN
STILL ISN'T
HERE?

IT SEEMS
THE GORILLA
IS AWAKE!





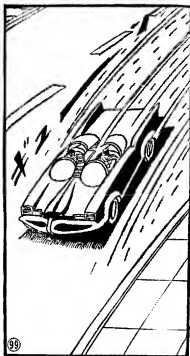
SFX: WHUMP



SFX: CRUNCH

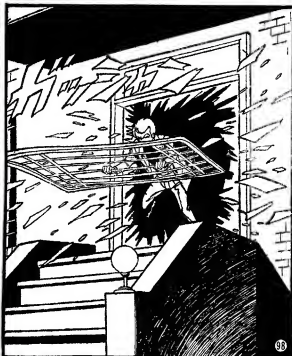


SFX: THUD THUD THUD THUD



99

SFX: WHOOSH



98

SFX: CRASH



101

BATMAN'S
HERE,
EH?



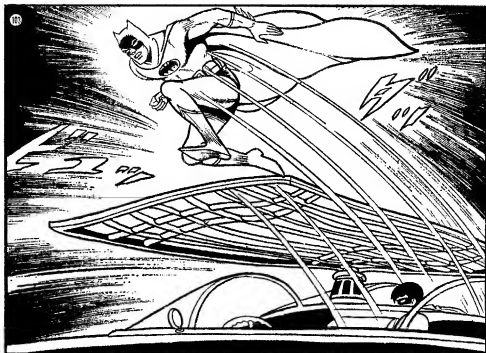
100

AH! THAT'S
WALTER,
FROM THE
INSTITUTE!



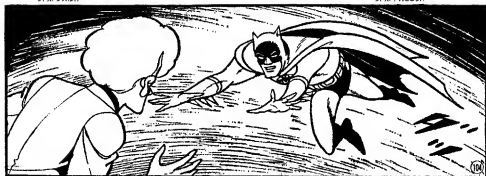
102

SFX: SWISH



SFX: SWISH

SFX: FWOOSH



SFX: FWOOSH



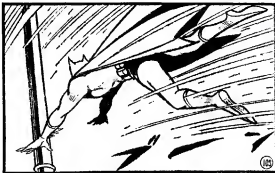
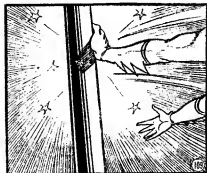
SFX: FINISH



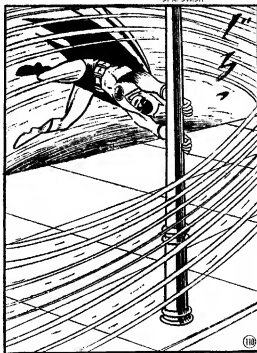
SFX: GRAB



SFX: ZOOM

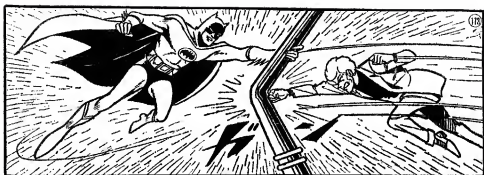


SFX: SWISH

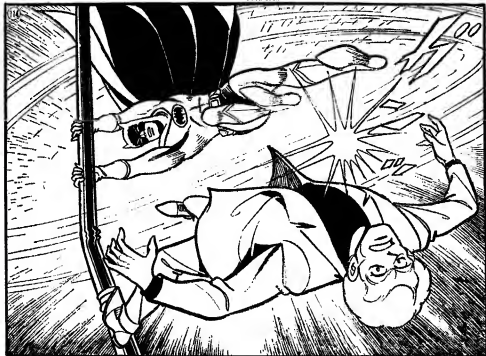


SFX: THUD THUD THUD

SFX: WHIRL



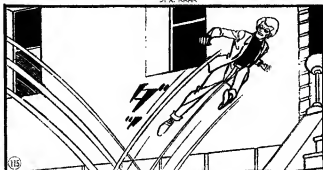
SFX: BAM



SFX: KRAK



OH! AND HOW
CAN HE BE SO
NIMBLE?!



SFX: SWISH



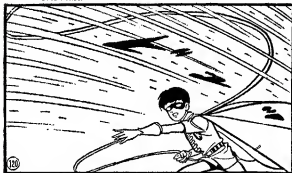
SFX: FWISH



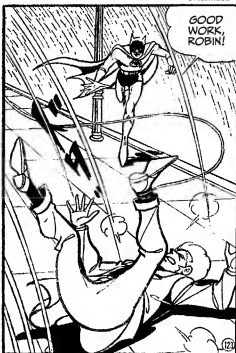
TA-TA, BATMAN!
WE SHALL
MEET AGAIN!



SFX: FWISH



SFX: WHIZZ



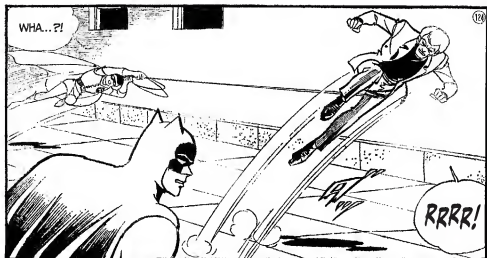
GOOD
WORK,
ROBIN!

SFX: WHUMP



SFX: SNAG





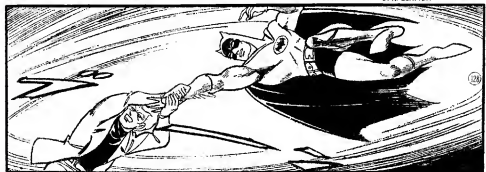
SFX: SWISH



SFX: FWHISH



SFX: CLATTER



SFX: SWISH



SFX: WHUD



BATMAN!
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?!



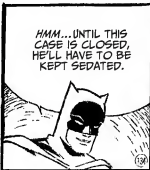
SFX: KRAK



NOW IT'S AN EASY
MATTER FOR ME
TO GET OUT FROM
BEHIND THAT
SPECIAL GLASS!



CLOSE CALL. IF THE
ROTATING TRANQUILIZER
NEEDLES I THREW AT
HIM HAD TAKEN EVEN
A MOMENT LONGER
TO TAKE EFFECT,
I'D BE A DEAD
MAN RIGHT
NOW.



HMM...UNTIL THIS
CASE IS CLOSED,
HE'LL HAVE TO BE
KEPT SEDATED.



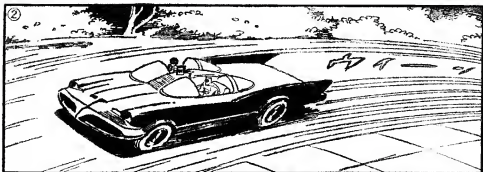
BUT NOW WHAT?
WITH THAT STRENGTH
OF HIS, NO CAGE
CAN HOLD HIM...



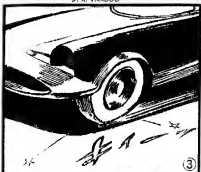




PREVIOUSLY: Professor Walter's invention, the bioniformer, converts animal intelligence into electric waves that can then be absorbed into human cells. When he attempted a similar procedure to absorb the strength of a gorilla, a counter-reaction occurred: he gained the animal's might, but in turn the ape received the professor's intellect. And so a super genius, speaking gorilla came to be and escaped from the laboratory. Batman and Robin are determined to capture him...



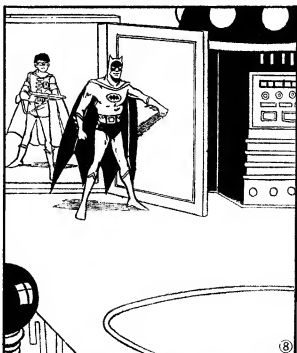
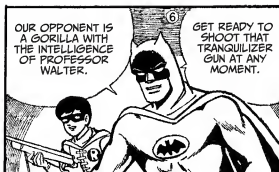
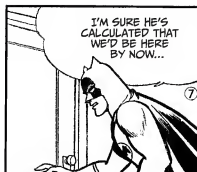
SFX: VRRROO



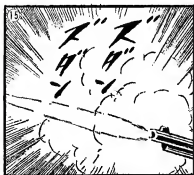
SFX: SKREEE



SFX: WALTER BIOLOGICAL LABS



Meanwhile, the
film 'GOING TO
AFRICA' is playing
at the The Gotham
Cinema...



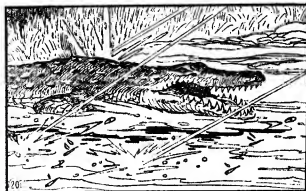
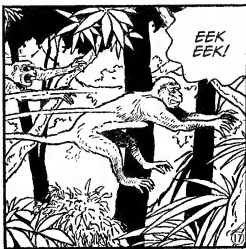
"Suddenly, the sound of bullets rips through the jungle!"

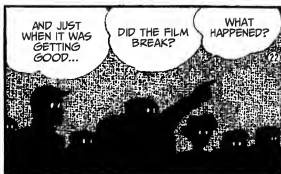
SFX: BLAM BLAM



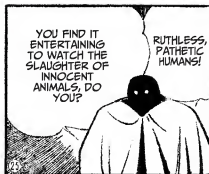
ROVRR!







SUDDENLY,
THE
SCREEN
GOES
BLACK!



SFX: FLASH

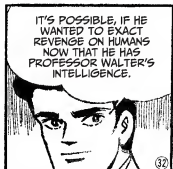


SFX: FLICK



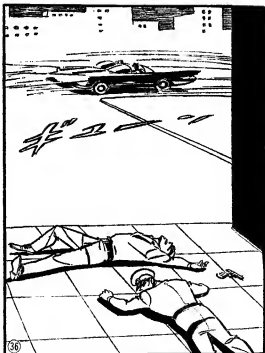
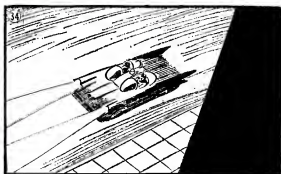


SFX: BABOOM

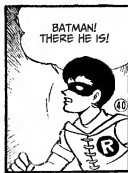


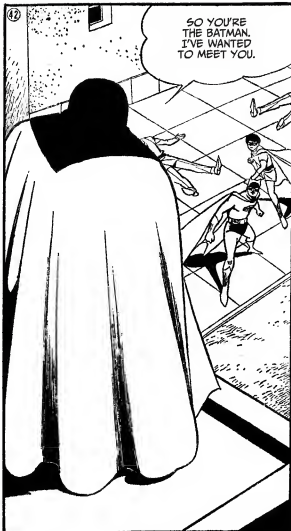
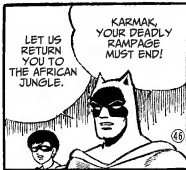
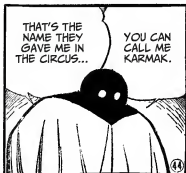


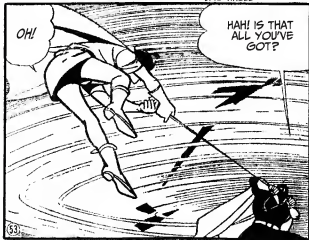
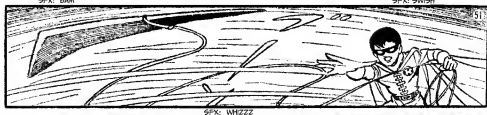
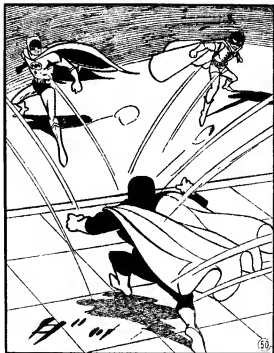
SFX: BLAM BLAM

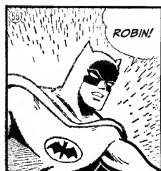


SFX: SKREEE





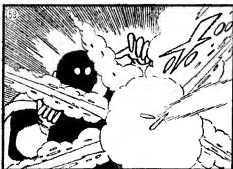
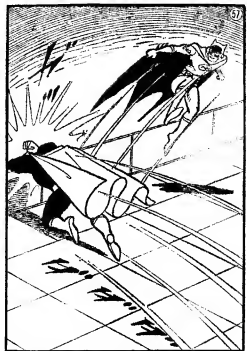




SFX: SLAM



SFX: PWOOSH

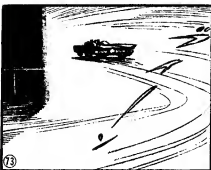


SFX: POOF

SFX: KRAK

SFX: THUD THUD THUD



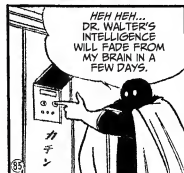
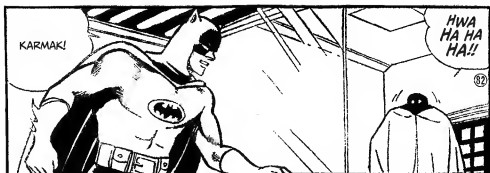




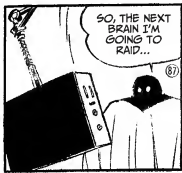
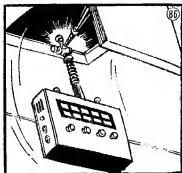
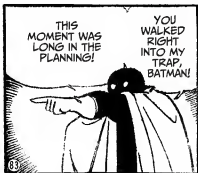
SIGN: WALTER BIOLOGICAL LABS



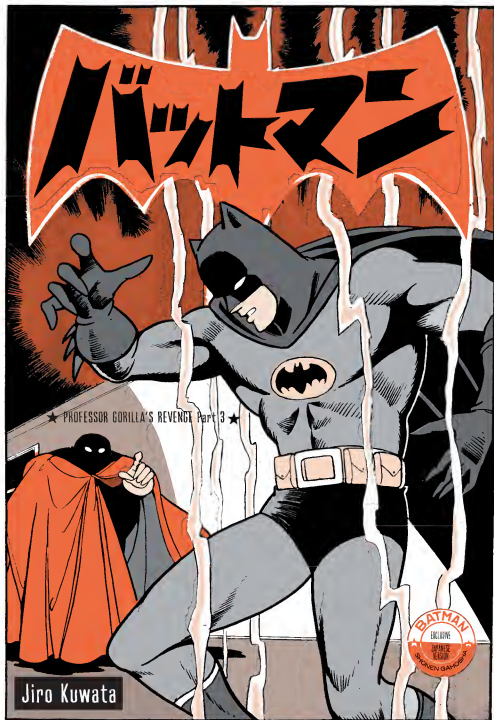
SFX: RATTLE RATTLE



SFX: CLICK

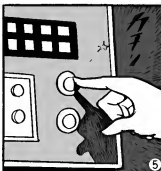
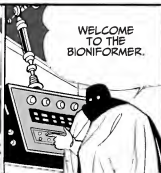








Having acquired superhuman intelligence through the bioniformer, Karmak the Gorilla plots his revenge against humanity. Hot on his trail, Batman followed him to Professor Walter's lab, only to walk into the waiting gorilla's trap...

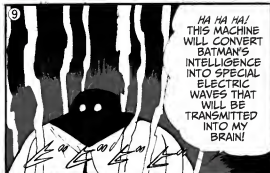


SFX: ZZZZZZT

SFX: CHIK



SFX: ZZZZZZ



HA HA HA!
THIS MACHINE
WILL CONVERT
BATMAN'S
INTELLIGENCE
INTO SPECIAL
ELECTRIC
WAVES THAT
WILL BE
TRANSMITTED
INTO MY
BRAIN!

SFX: ZZZZZZ



AGH!

SFX: ZZZZZZ



MWA
HA HA!

12



THEN I WILL
BE AS CLEVER
AND NIMBLE AND
BRAVE AS HE!

10



11

SFX: THUD



SFX: CRASH

SFX: THUMP



Upon returning, the Dynamic Duo discover that Professor Walter has reverted to normal.



INDEED, IN THE NEXT
FIVE DAYS, KARMAK'S
REIGN OF TERROR SHOOK
GOTHAM CITY!!

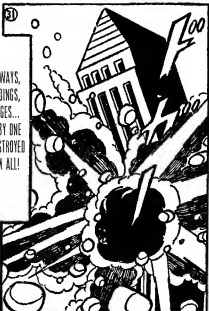
30



29



HIGHWAYS,
BUILDINGS,
BRIDGES...
ONE BY ONE
HE DESTROYED
THEM ALL!

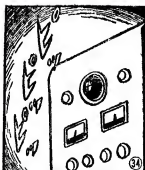


SFX: BA-DOOM



THE
BAT-PHONE'S
RINGING!

SFX: BEEP BEEP



SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP



AND WITH YOUR
SKILL AND HIS
STRENGTH, HE'S
GOT US BEAT!



BATMAN! PLEASE DO
SOMETHING! THAT
GORILLA HAS BLOWN UP
THE GOTHAM BRIDGE!



I'LL
STOP HIM,
INSPECTOR
GORDON.



PLEASE,
BATMAN!!

YOU'RE
OUR
ONLY
HOPE!



THE POLICE HAVE
HIM SURROUNDED HIM
MORE THAN ONCE,
BUT HE MANAGES TO
ESCAPE EVERY
TIME!

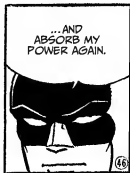
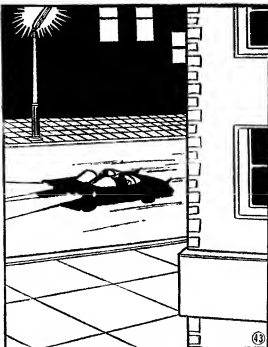
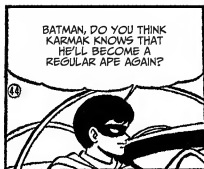


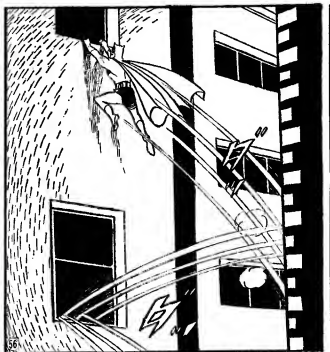
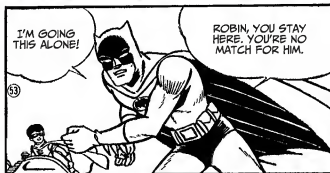
YOU'RE
RIGHT--
WE CAN'T
JUST LEAVE
HIM BE!



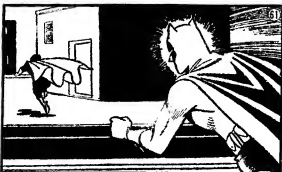
THAT'S ONE DAY
TOO MANY! WHO
KNOWS WHAT
HE'LL DO NEXT?

ACCORDING
TO MY
CALCULATIONS,
HE'S GOT ONE
DAY LEFT. THEN
HE REVERTS
BACK.

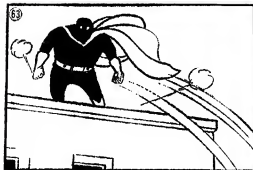




SFX: THUMP THUMP

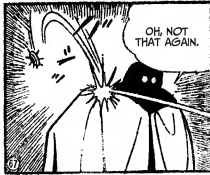


SFX: FINISH

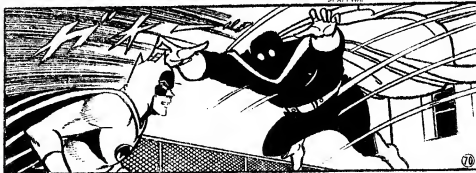




SFX: WHIZZZ



SFX: FWAP



SFX: ROARRR



SFX: WHUD



SFX: KRAK



SFX: BLINK



SFX: THUD THUD THUD



SFX: KRAK



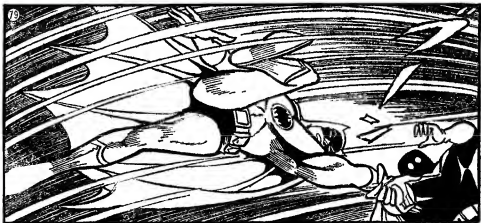
SFX: BLINK



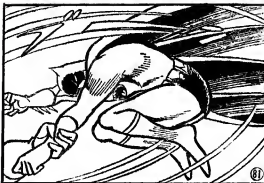
SFX: GRAB



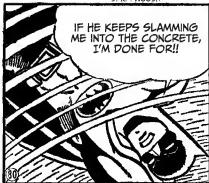
SFX: WHOK



SFX: FWOOSH



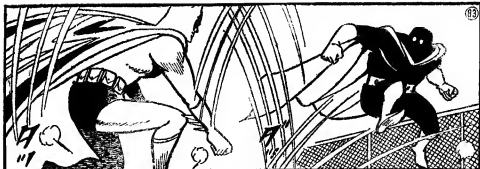
SFX: WHOOSH



IF HE KEEPS SLAMMING
ME INTO THE CONCRETE,
I'M DONE FOR!!

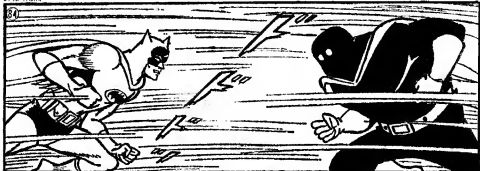


SFX: WHAK



SFX: THUMP

SFX: THUMP



SFX: THUD THUD THUD



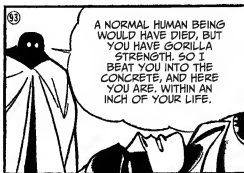
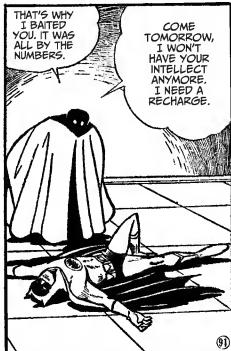
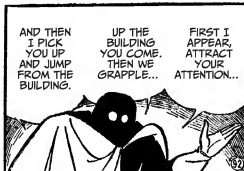
IN CASE
YOU FORGOT,
BODY-
SLAMMING
USUALLY
WORKS OUT
BETTER FOR
THE BIGGER
GUY!

SFX: WHUMP



SFX: CRASH

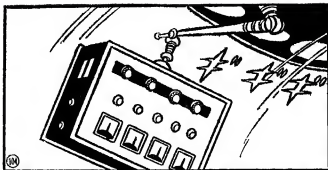






SIGN: WALTER BIOLOGICAL LABS

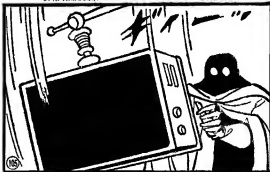




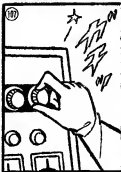
SFX: WHIRRRRR



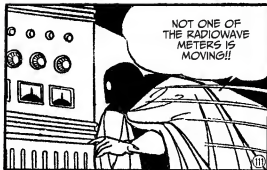
SFX: CHIK



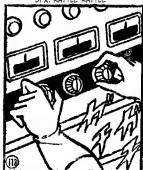
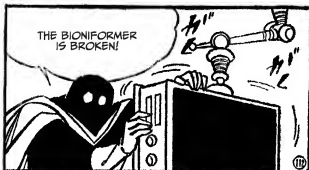
SFX: WHIRRRRR

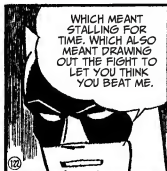
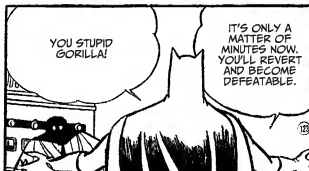
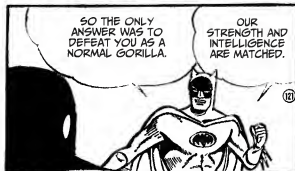
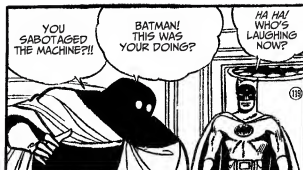


SFX: CHIK



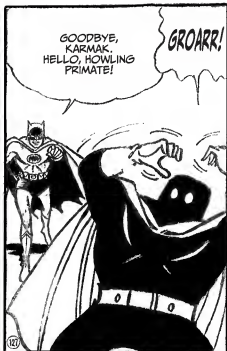
SFX: CHIK CHIK CHIK







SFX: GRARRR

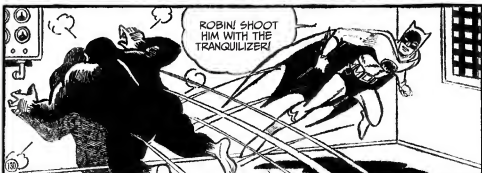


GOODBYE,
KARMAK.
HELLO, HOWLING
PRIMATE!

GROARR!



AND OFF COMES
THE ALLOY CLOAK,
JUST AS I THOUGHT.
RIGHT ON
SCHEDULE!



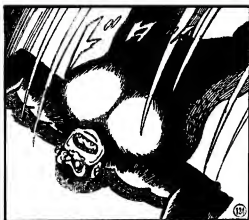
ROBIN! SHOOT
HIM WITH THE
TRANQUILIZER!



SFX: PFFT

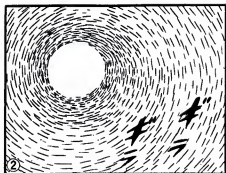


AT YOUR
SERVICE,
BATMAN!



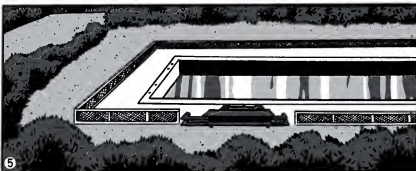


Jiro Kuwata

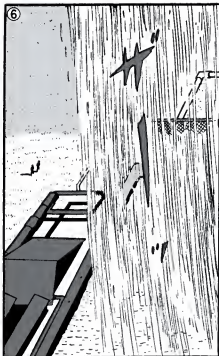
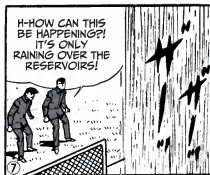


The sun
beats down
brutally on
Gotham City
again
today...

SFX: GLARE GLARE



That's correct.
The long dry
spell has
severely depleted
the water at
Gotham's
reservoirs.



Suddenly, it begins to pour down rain over the reservoirs, filling all six of them up for the first time in months. But the startling things is...



12

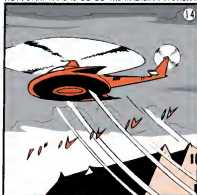
おれの名は魔人ゴゴ
 ゴツダム市の三つの宝を
 いただいたおれに貯水池
 の水をめくんでやった。

YOU
 MEAN
 THAT?



WORDS: MY NAME IS GO GO THE MAGICIAN. IN EXCHANGE FOR TAKING GOTHAM CITY'S THREE TREASURES, I FILLED THE RESERVOIRS.

14



SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP

Those
 quick-change
 artists
 Batman and
 Robin soon
 take off in
 their
 chopper...

PREPARE THE
 BATCOPTER! WE'RE
 GOING TO TAKE A
 CLOSER LOOK
 AT THAT
 SKYWRITING!

13



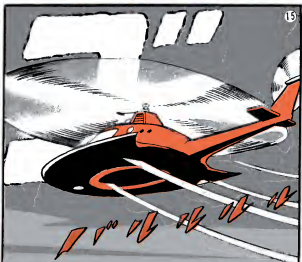
THEN THIS
 "GO GO THE
 MAGICIAN"
 FELLOW
 PRODUCED
 THEM
 ARTIFICIALLY?

LOOK,
 ROBIN! THE
 LETTERS ARE
 MADE FROM
 FROST
 CRYSTALS!

16



15

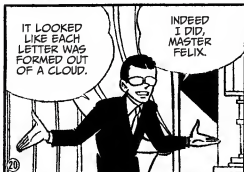


WORD: GO

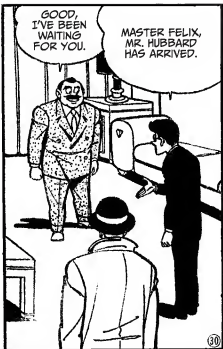
SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP



This is the
mansion of
billionaire art
collector Felix...







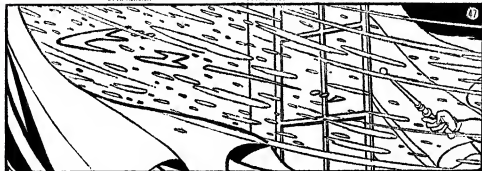




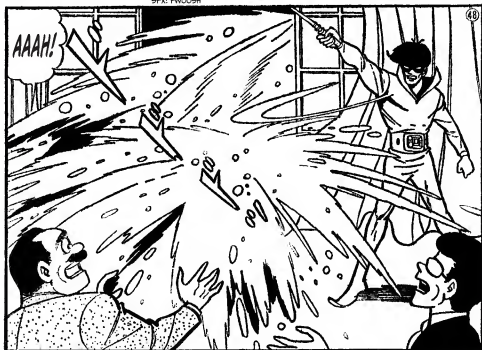
SFX: HUMMM



SFX: SWISH



SFX: FWOOSH



SFX: FOOSH



SPK: F0005H



SFX: FOOOSH



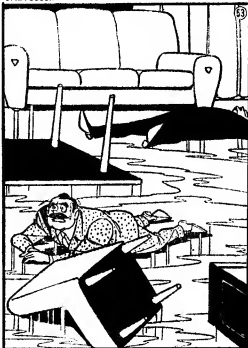
SFX: SPLDOOSH



SFX: FOOOSH



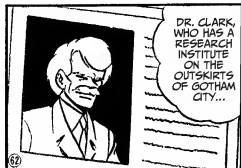
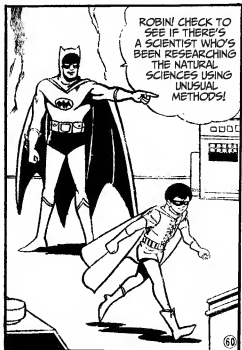
Neon-
wirls...

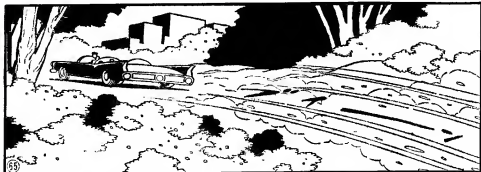
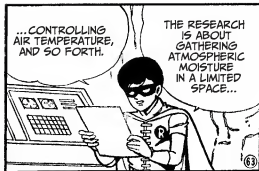


By the time Mr. Felix came to, the golden cup of King Kappata was long gone, along with Go Go the Magician...

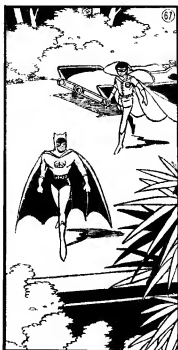


SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP

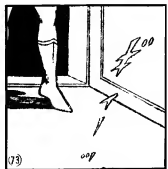
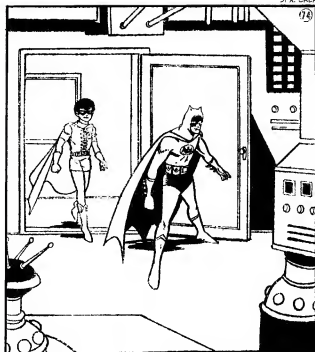
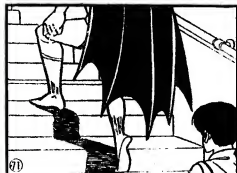


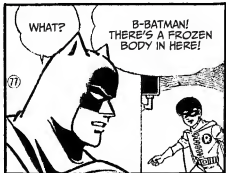
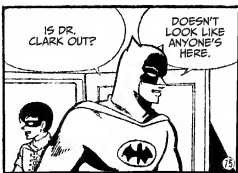
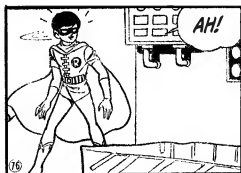


SFX: VROOOOOM



SIGN: CLARK RESEARCH INSTITUTE









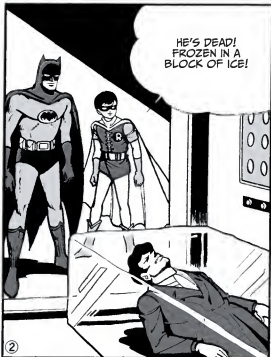


PREVIOUSLY: In order to determine the identity of the villainous weather-wizard Go-Go The Magician, Batman and Robin act on a hunch and pay a call on the renowned nature scientist Professor Clarke. However, upon entering his laboratory, they make a grim discovery.



I DOUBT IT.

COULD IT BE SOME SORT OF TRAGIC ACCIDENT?



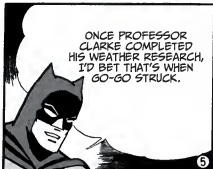
HE'S DEAD!
FROZEN IN A
BLOCK OF ICE!



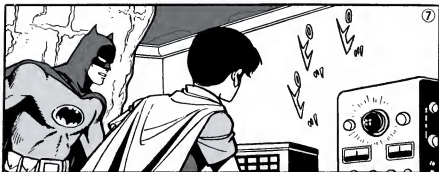
IT LOOKS LIKE THE
WORK OF GO-GO
THE MAGICIAN
TO ME.



HE NOT ONLY STOLE
THE TECHNOLOGY--
HE MURDERED THE
PROFESSOR, TOO.



ONCE PROFESSOR
CLARKE COMPLETED
HIS WEATHER RESEARCH,
I'D BET THAT'S WHEN
GO-GO STRUCK.



Back in the Batcave, the police alarm is activated.

SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP



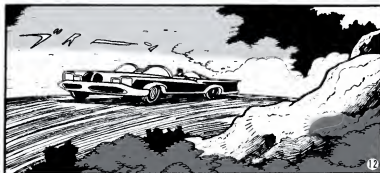
THEY'RE ALL WORRIED THAT THEY NEED PROTECTION.



NO, NOTHING, BUT EVERYONE WITH VALUABLE PIECES OF ART HAS BEEN CALLING IN.



INSPECTOR GORDON! ANY NEWS ON GO-GO?



SFX: WHOOSH



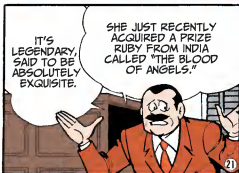
I SEE. THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA. WE'LL BE THERE SOON.

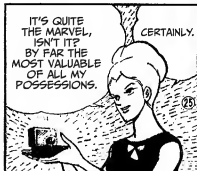


I'VE BEEN THINKING... MR. FELIX'S GOLDEN CUP WAS STOLEN ONLY AFTER THE MESSAGE APPEARED IN THE SKY.



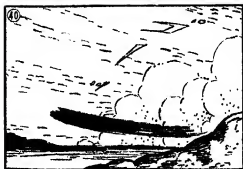
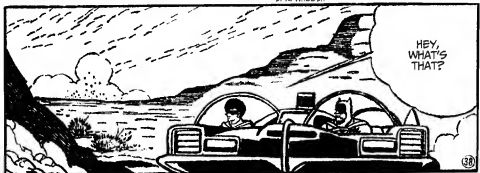
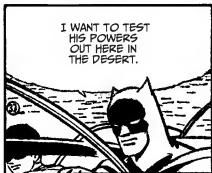
WELL, THAT WAS QUICK.

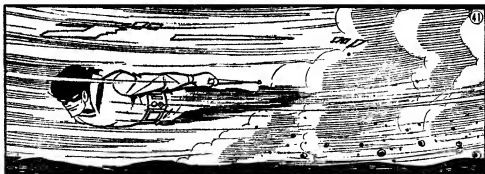




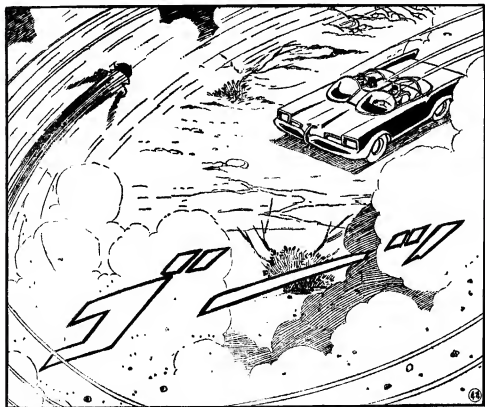


SFX: VRRRRR





SFX: PWOOSH



SFX: FWISH

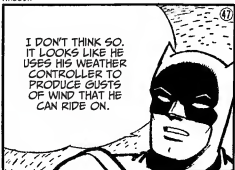


WHOA!
HE CAN
FLY,
TOO?

SFX: SKREEE



SFX: WHOOSH



I DON'T THINK SO.
IT LOOKS LIKE HE
USES HIS WEATHER
CONTROLLER TO
PRODUCE GUSTS
OF WIND THAT HE
CAN RIDE ON.



WELL HERE'S
ANOTHER
SURPRISE!



HA HA HA!
SURPRISED,
BATMAN?



HE'S MUCH
TRICKIER THAN
I THOUGHT.



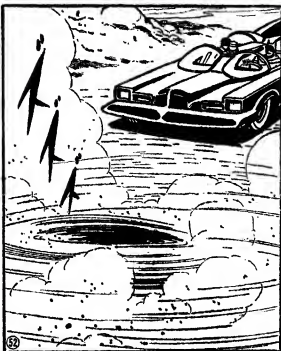
53

SFX: WHIRRR



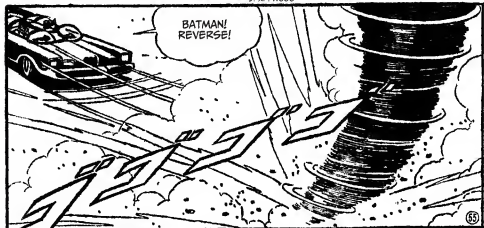
54

A TORNADO!



52

SFX: FWOOO



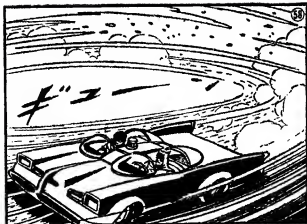
55

SFX: WHRRR



56

GO, TORNADO!
SWELL IN SIZE AND
SWALLOW THAT CAR!



SFX: SKREEE



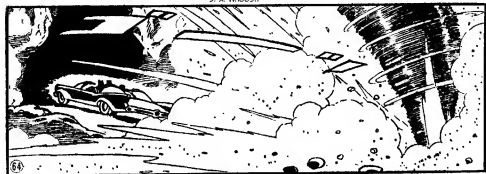
SFX: WHRRRRR



SFX: WHRRRR



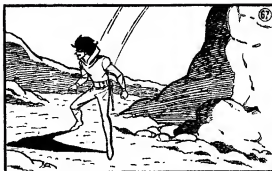
SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: FWOOSH



HEH
HEH...



WELL,
YOU'RE
TRAPPED
NOW!

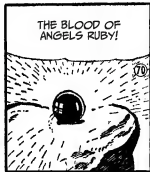
HIDING,
EH?



AH...



HA HA HA!
BATMAN, YOU
SAW THE
EXTENT
OF MY
POWER
AND NOW
YOU'RE
GIVING
IN.



THE BLOOD OF
ANGELS RUBY!



HMM?

DON'T KID
YOURSELF,
GO-GO!!

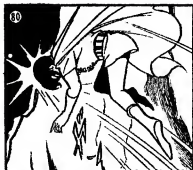


SO YOU
OFFER THE RUBY
AND WE CALL
A TRUCE.

YOU KNOW
YOU DON'T
STAND A
CHANCE IN
A FIGHT.



SFX: SWISH



SFX: KRAK



SFX: WHUMP

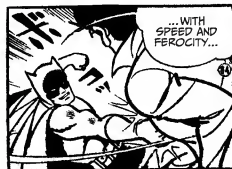


AH! A WHIRLWIND!

SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: SWISH



SFX: WHUD



SFX: WHOK

...WITH
SPEED AND
FEROCITY...

HAVE TO TRY
TO OVERWHELM
HIM...



SFX: KRAK



SFX: WHUMP





SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: FWOOSH



SFX: BAM BAM BAM





SFX: KRIK KRIK



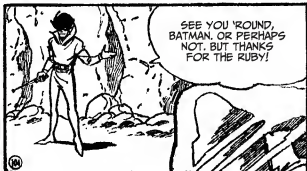
GOOD LUCK ESCAPING.
I HAVE A FEELING
YOU'LL RUN OUT OF
AIR FIRST.



HA HA HA!
I'LL BE A GOOD
SPORT, BATMAN, AND
LEAVE YOU TO
YOUR ICE CUBE
IN PEACE.



HA HA
HA HA
HA!!



SEE YOU 'ROUND,
BATMAN. OR PERHAPS
NOT. BUT THANKS
FOR THE RUBY!



SFX: SWISH



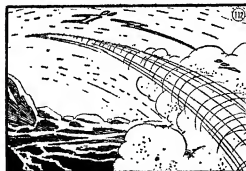
106



SFX: WHOOSH



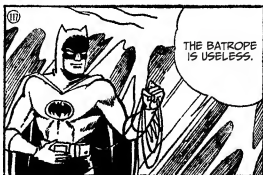
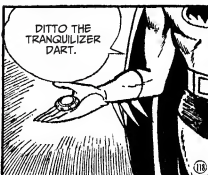
AS LONG AS I
POSSESS THE WEATHER
CONTROLLER,
I'M FEARLESS!



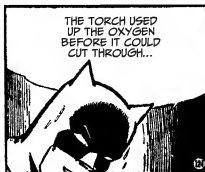
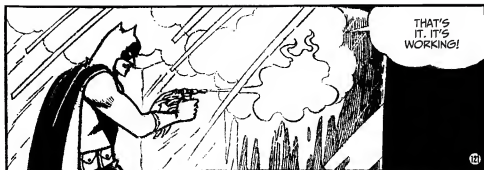
SFX: SWOOSH



SFX: FWOOSH



SFX: F59MH

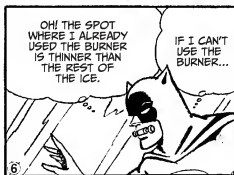
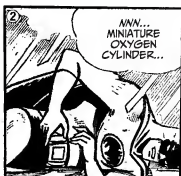






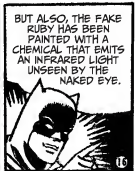


Go-Go the Magician used his weather-manipulating device to trap Batman inside a cage of ice. If he can't escape before the oxygen runs out, Batman will die of suffocation! He took out a portable burner from his utility belt and tried melting the ice, but the flames used up almost all of the oxygen in the cramped space...



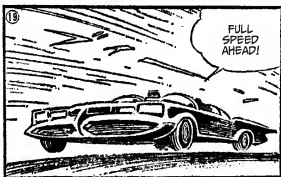
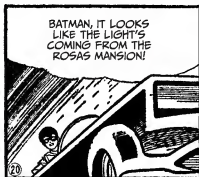


SFX: KRAK

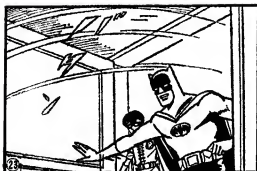




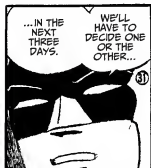
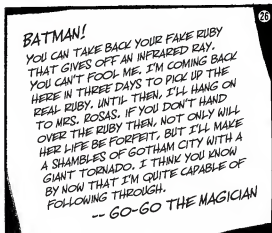
Batman emerges from the Batcave and quickly discovers the infrared spotlight being emitted from the ruby from far off in the distance.



SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: SWISH





The third day came all too quickly.



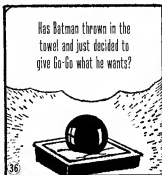
In a room at the Rosas mansion, Batman waits patiently for Go Go the Magician to make his grand entrance!



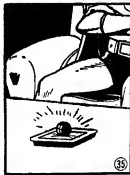
TEXT: FIRST DAY, SECOND DAY, THIRD DAY



SFX: FWOOD



Was Batman thrown in the towel and just decided to give Go-Go what he wants?



The genuine ruby, nicknamed "Angel Blood," is on the table before him.



SFX: FWOOD



SFX: FWOOD



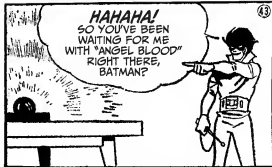
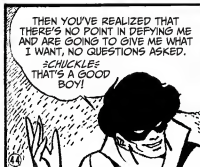
SFX: FWISH

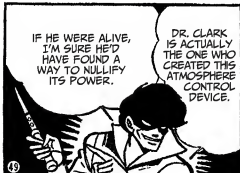


SFX: FWOOO



SFX: THUMP





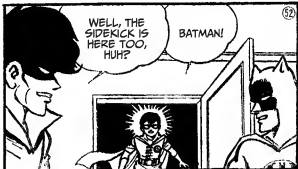
THEN WHY DID YOU MURDER DR. CLARK?

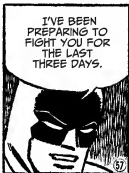


BUT EVERYONE ELSE IS NO PROBLEM. AND THAT INCLUDES YOU, BATMAN.



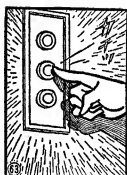
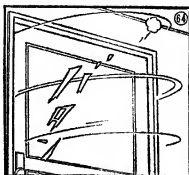
I CHECKED. MRS. ROSAS REALLY IS SLEEPING SAFELY IN HER ROOM.



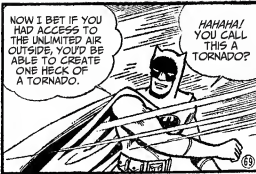


SFX: RATTLE RATTLE

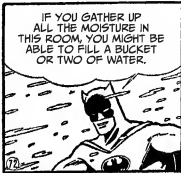
SFX: CLICK



SFX: FWOOSH



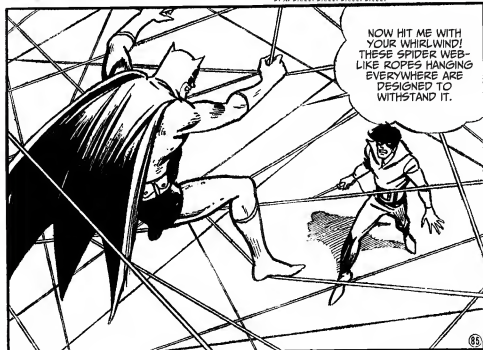
SFX: F5555





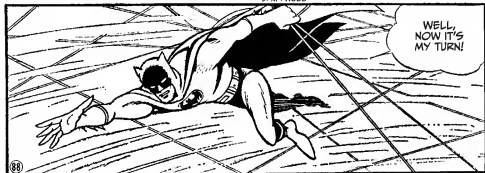


SFX: SHAAA SHAAA SHAAA SHAAA





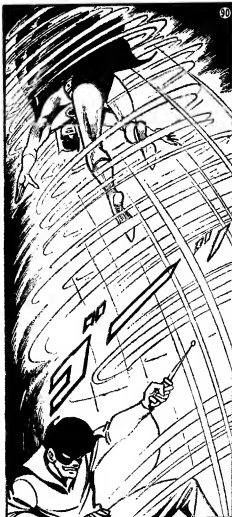
SFX: FWOOD



SFX: KRAK



SFX: WHOK





SFX: SPRING



SFX: WCK

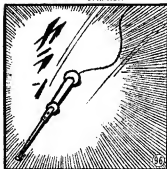


ROGER!

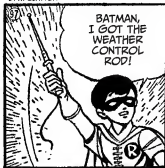
COME ON,
ROBIN, LET'S
CONTACT CHIEF
GORDON.

WITHOUT THAT,
HE'S JUST A
RUN-OF-THE-MILL
THIEF.

98



SFX: CLATTER



BATMAN,
I GOT THE
WEATHER
CONTROL
ROD!



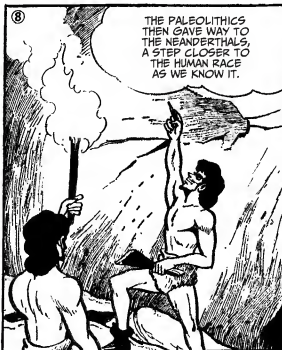
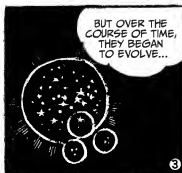
ROBIN AND I HAVE
CAPTURED GO-GO THE
MAGICIAN AT LAST. SWING
BY AND YOU CAN TAKE
CUSTODY OF HIM.
OVER AND OUT!

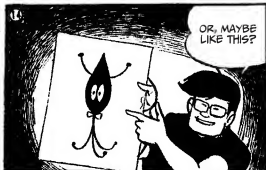
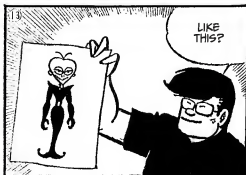
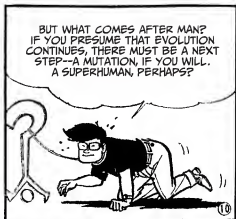
BATMAN TO
CHIEF GORDON!
BATMAN TO
CHIEF GORDON!

99

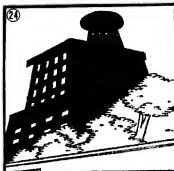








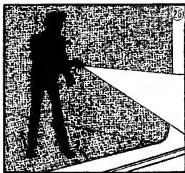
SFX: TOSS



SIGN: NUCLEAR POWER RESEARCH LAB



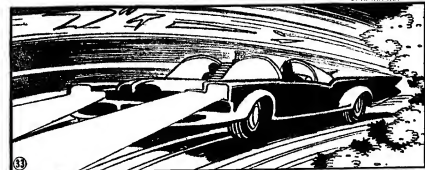
SFX: TAK TAK



SFX: KRAC

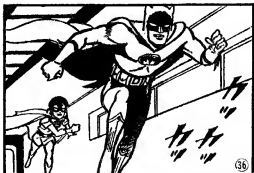
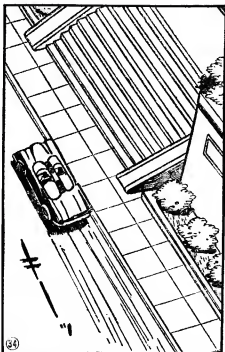


SFX: TAK TAK



SFX: WHOOSH

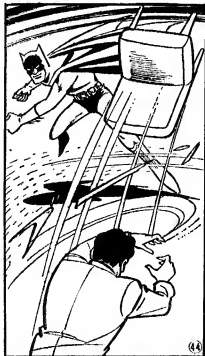
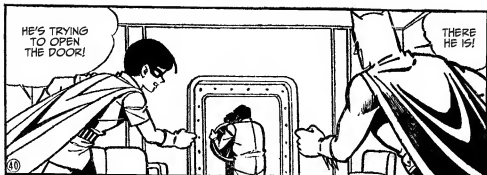
Batman and Robin rush to the scene!



SFX: TAK TAK TAK

SFX: SKREEE





SFX: SWISH



SFX: FWHISH



SFX: CHIK





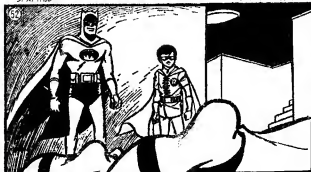
SFX: THUD



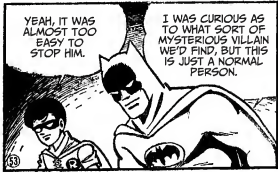
SFX: WOBBLE WOBBLE

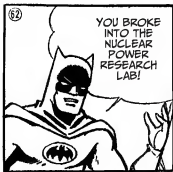


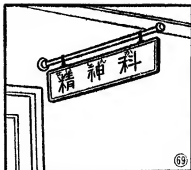
SFX: POK



SFX: WHUMP







SIGN: DEPARTMENT OF NEURAL SCIENCE



Y-YES, OF COURSE...

EVEN SO, YOU SHOULD HAVE A PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.



PROFESSOR, WHAT DID YOU FIND? ANYTHING?



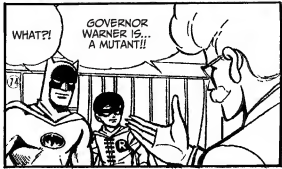
TERRIBLE?



THE TEST RESULTS ON GOVERNOR WARNER SHOW SOMETHING QUITE EXTRAORDINARY... AND TERRIBLE.

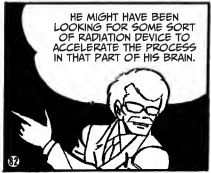
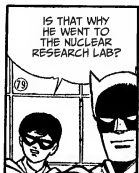
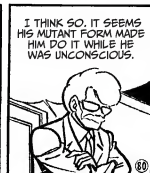
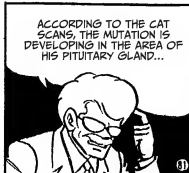


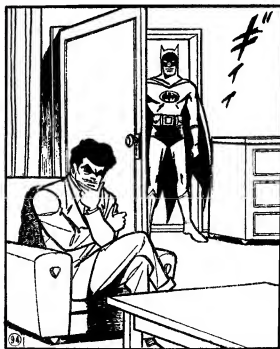
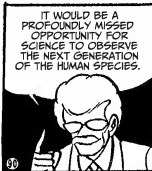
WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?



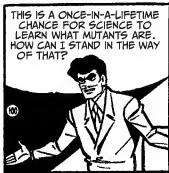
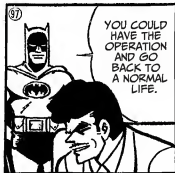
WHAT?!

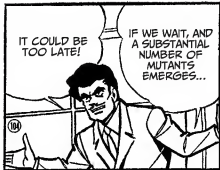
GOVERNOR WARNER IS... A MUTANT!!

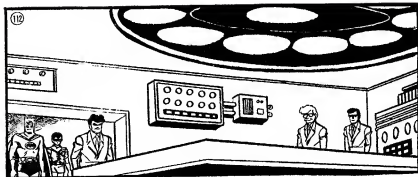




SFX: CREAK



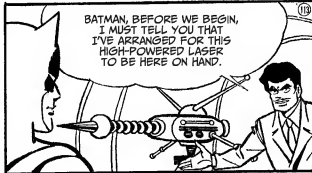




A week later, Governor Warner is ready to receive radiation that will complete his evolution into a mutant...



IT CAN BLAST A MAN TO DUST IN A SPLIT SECOND.



BATMAN, BEFORE WE BEGIN, I MUST TELL YOU THAT I'VE ARRANGED FOR THIS HIGH-POWERED LASER TO BE HERE ON HAND.



WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT, NOTHING WILL EVER BE THE SAME!

MY DECISION IS FINAL! THIS IS A HISTORIC DAY!



GOVERNOR--

IF I TURN INTO A MONSTER, I WANT YOU TO USE IT ON ME!



ALL RIGHT. COMMENCE THE RADIATION!

WE'RE ALL SET!



バットマン

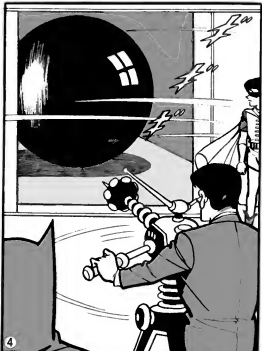
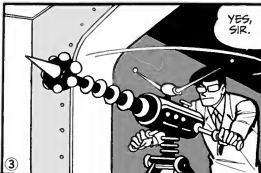


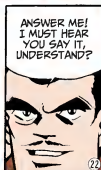
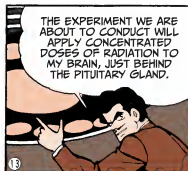
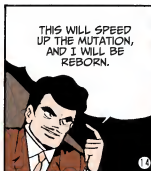
★ THE MAN WHO QUIT BEING HUMAN part 2 ★

Jiro Kuwata

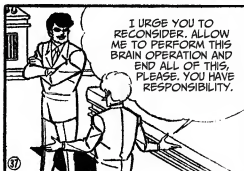


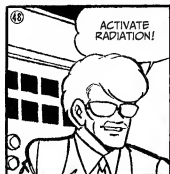
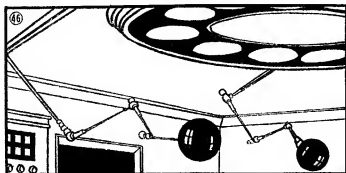
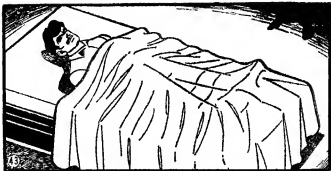
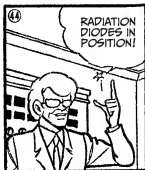
PREVIOUSLY: At last the day has come. Governor Warner will submit himself to doses of radiation that will accelerate his becoming a mutant. As a result of this experiment, mankind will find out if mutants will be a force for good, to make the world a better place; or evil, to enslave humans and own them like pets and destroy the earth. As a precaution, a super-powered laser gun has been installed in the laboratory.





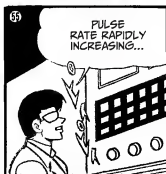








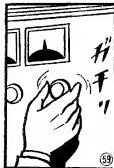
SFX: BZZZZZZZZZZ



SFX: BEEP BEEP



SFX: BZZZZ



SFX: CHK

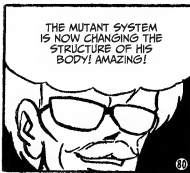
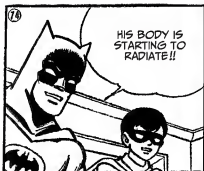


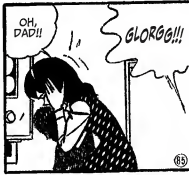


SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP



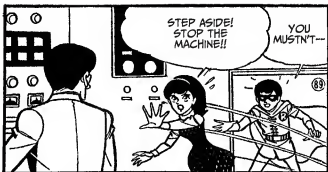
SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP







SFX: CHK



STEP ASIDE!
STOP THE
MACHINE!!

YOU
MUSN'T--



≡GASP!!≡



WHA--?



OH MY--
LOOK AT HIS
FACE!



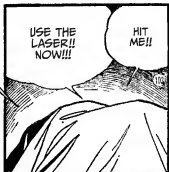
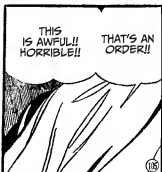
SHE'S
FAINTED!



OOHHH...



SFX: RUSTLE



ONLY I KNOW!
THERE'S NO TIME FOR
EXPLANATIONS!! JUST,
SHRAAAAG--!!



WHAT'S
HAPPENING??



BEFORE
IT'S TOO
LATE!!

SHOOT
ME!!



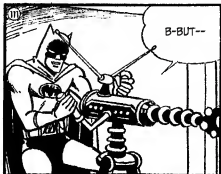
I CAN'T! HE'S AN
INNOCENT MAN!!



I-I...



B-BUT--



HE'S GONE
QUIET.



...



YOU SHOULD HAVE,
WHEN YOU HAD THE
CHANCE...

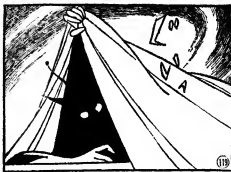
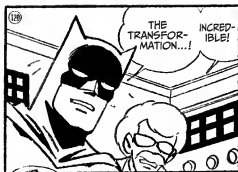


???



HEE HEE
HEE...





SFX: RUSTLE







★THE MAN WHO QUIT BEING HUMAN part 3★



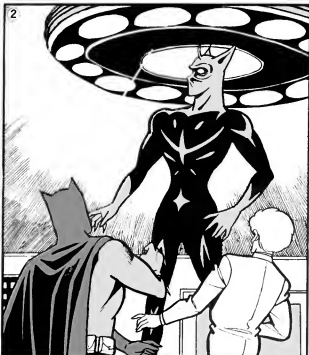
Jiro Kuwata



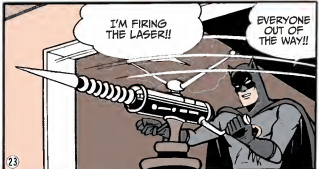
PREVIOUSLY: It appears that the experiment to determine the nature of man's evolution into mutanthood has confirmed everyone's worst fears. Governor Warner's transformation is now complete, and he has taken on a bizarre and ghastly appearance. Ominously, right before the mutation was final, Warner screamed orders at Batman to kill him with the super powered laser. Despite his promise to do so, Batman could not bring himself to shoot it while the Governor still contained a shred of humanity. But the chance has come and gone, and now the mutant, fully formed, stands before them...

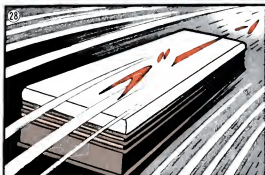


SPX: STARE





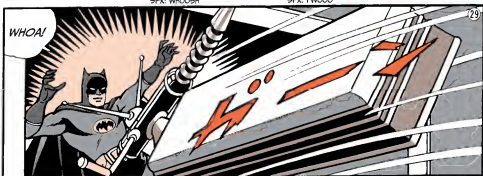




SFX: WHOOSH



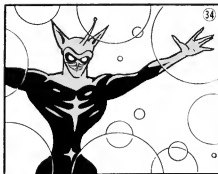
SFX: FWOOD



SFX: CRASH



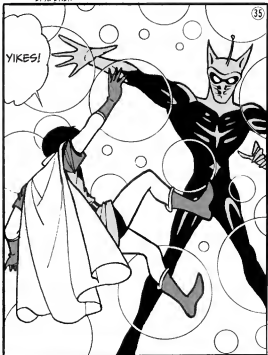
SFX: GLANCE

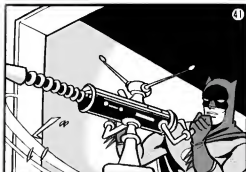


SFX: DASH



SFX: WHUMP





SFX: YANK



SFX: WOBBLE



42



DRAT!
MISSED
HIM!



46



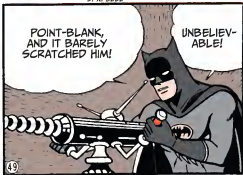
SFX: BZZZZZ



SFX: BOOM



SFX: BZZZ



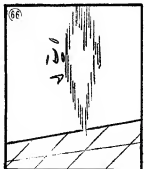
SFX: FOO



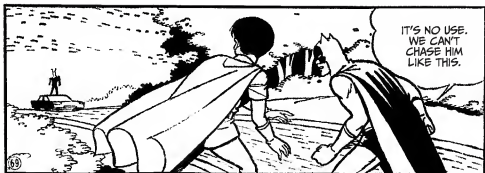




SFX: FOO

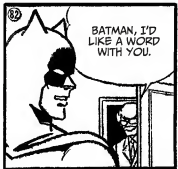
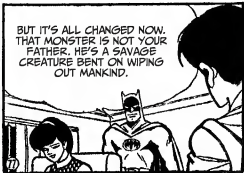


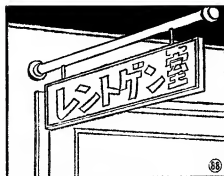
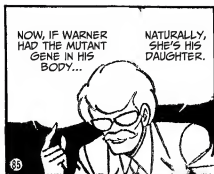
SFX: FOO



SFX: CREAK







SIGN: X-RAY LAB



SFX: CREAK





OH,
NO...



LIZ WILL
BECOME
A MUTANT,
TOO...



WH-WHAT
IS IT? IS
LIZ...

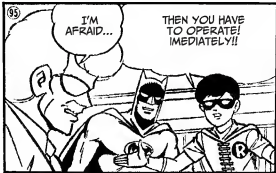
I...



WHY NOT?



WE CAN'T
DO THAT.



I'M
AFRAID...

THEN YOU HAVE
TO OPERATE!
IMMEDIATELY!!



YOU MEAN WE
HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT TO WATCH HER
SLOWLY TURN INTO
A MONSTER?



THE MUTANT STRAIN IN
LIZ RUNS FAR DEEPER
IN HER BRAIN THAN
IN HER FATHER'S.
IF WE OPERATE,
SHE'LL DIE.



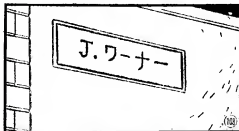
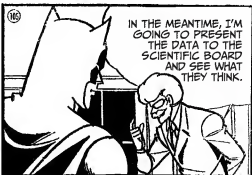
IF ONLY
THERE WAS
SOMETHING WE
COULD DO.



TO SAY
THE LEAST.



THAT'S RIGHT.
HOW I WISH I
HAD BETTER NEWS.
IT'S A DREADFUL
SITUATION.



SIGN: J. WARNER



科学委員会

SIGN: NATIONAL BOARD OF SCIENCE

AND SO, GENTLEMEN,
THERE YOU HAVE IT:
THE NEW MUTANT STRAIN
IS VERY DANGEROUS AND
IF LEFT UNCHECKED
COULD BREED A RACE OF
SUPER BEINGS INTENT ON
MANKIND'S DESTRUCTION.

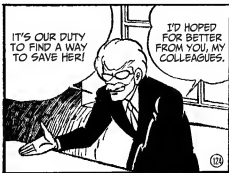
HOWEVER, IN THE CASE
OF GOVERNOR WARNER'S
DAUGHTER, LIZ, THE
MUTANT SOURCE IS
FAR TOO RECESSED
TO REACH.

...MUST HAVE
IT REMOVED
AT ONCE, UPON
DETECTION. IT IS A
RELATIVELY SIMPLE
PROCEDURE.

THEREFORE,
ANYONE WHO IS
DISCOVERED
TO CONTAIN
THE MUTANT
STRAIN...

WE MUST
DECIDE WHAT
TO DO.

IF WE OPERATE, SHE'LL
DIE, AND IF WE DON'T SHE'LL
ULTIMATELY BECOME A
DANGEROUS THREAT.



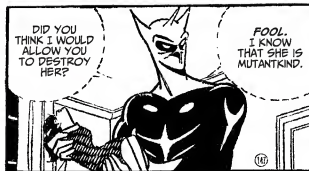
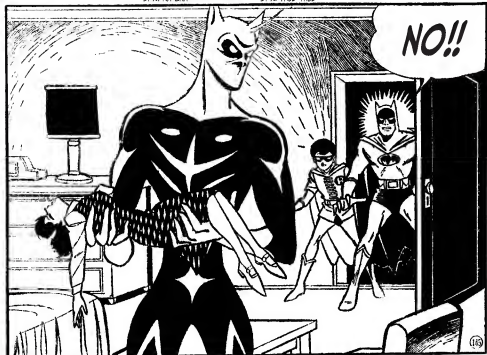




SFX: KA-CHA



SFX: THUD THUD





SFX: FWISH



WE WON'T
LET YOU TURN
HER INTO A
MONSTER!!



I'LL RAISE HER
AS MY OWN--SHE
SHALL EVOLVE
AND THRIVE.



SFX: WHUMP



SFX: SWISH

SFX: FWOOW



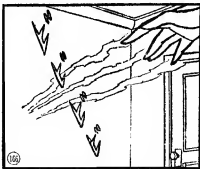
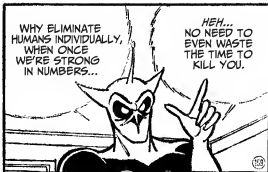
YOU HUMANS
THINK YOU'RE
MORALLY
SUPERIOR
TO MUTANTS!
RIDICULOUS!



ROBIN!
ARE YOU
HURT?

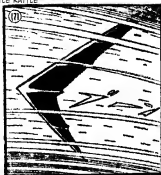
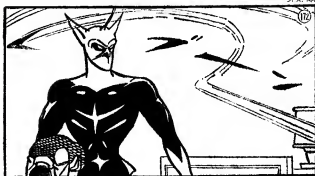
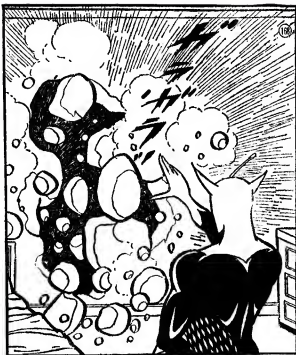


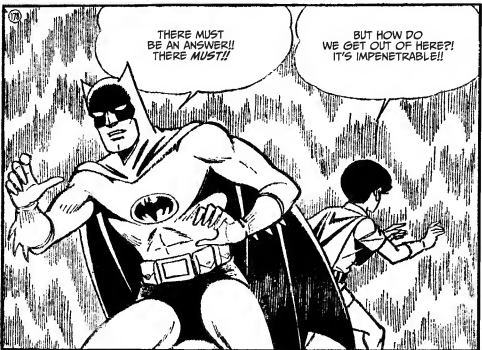
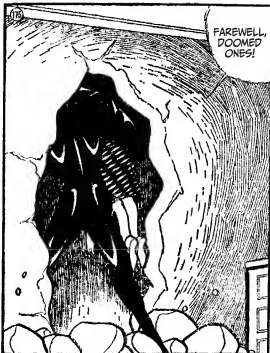
Batman and
Robin are
enveloped
in the
mutant's
strange
golden
aura!!



SFX: P5555

SFX: BZZZZZZZZ









PREVIOUSLY: The Mutant, having announced its plan to obliterate mankind, proceeded to trap Batman and Robin in a force-field cage and then kidnapped Liz. If the Dynamic Duo don't find a way to escape soon, Liz will be transformed into a mutant as well, and humanity's destruction will be set in motion...



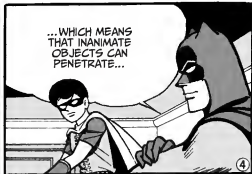
WAIT! YOU
THREW THE
BATARANG
THROUGH IT!



UHN! JUST WHEN
I THINK I CAN
GET THROUGH.
I'M REPELLED!
IT'S NO USE!



...WHICH COULD
BE OUR
WAY OUT!



...WHICH MEANS
THAT INANIMATE
OBJECTS CAN
PENETRATE...

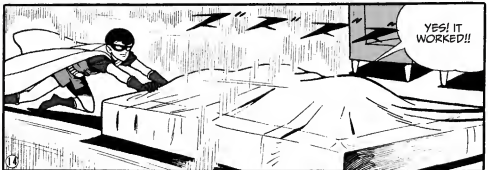
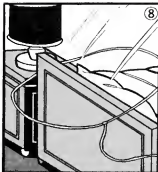
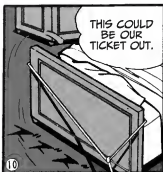


HUP!



WE MIGHT
BE ABLE TO
SLIP PAST THE
FORCE FIELD.

IF WE
CAN CLOAK
OURSELVES
THOROUGHLY...





HURRY!
UNDER THE
MATTRESS!

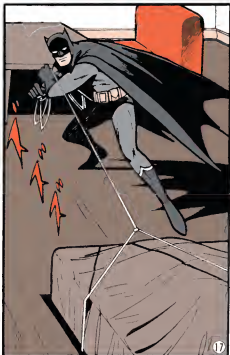


OKAY, ROBIN!
YOUR TURN!



MADE
IT!

PHEW!



WHERE DO
YOU THINK HE
WAS HEADED?

NO TIME
TO WASTE!
WE NEED
TO TRACK
HIM
DOWN!



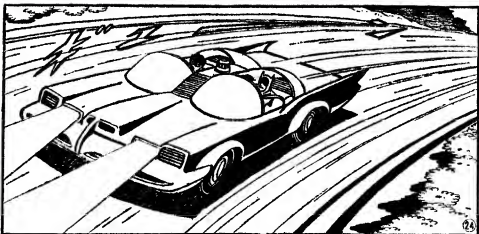
HE'S
BOUND
TO GO
THERE!



THE NUCLEAR
RESEARCH
LAB!!

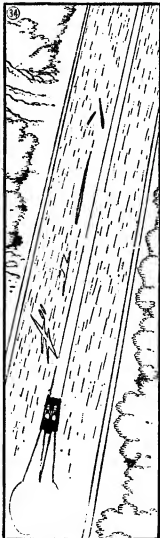


HE NEEDED THE
RESOURCES TO
MUTATE LIZ...



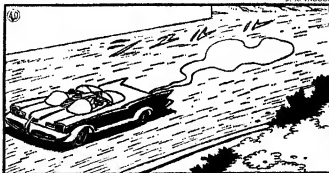
SFX: VRRRR



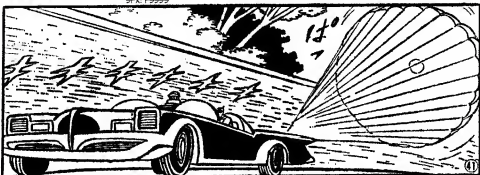




SFX: VROOOO



SFX: FSSSS

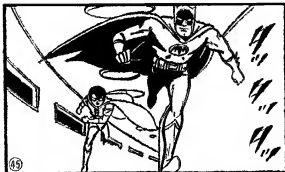


SFX: SKREEEEE

SFX: FWAP



SFX: SKREE



SFX: TA TA TA



SIGN: RADIATION LAB



WE NEED TO BUY ALL THE TIME WE CAN.

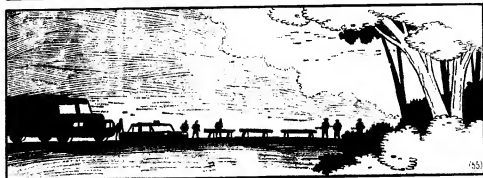
I'M GOING TO CALL INSPECTOR GORDON.



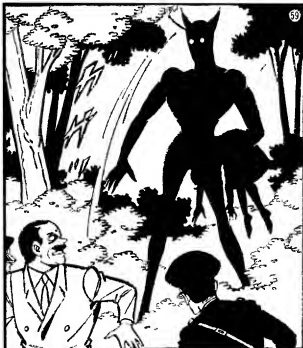
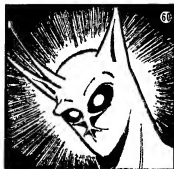
WHEW! WE'RE IN LUCK. HE'S NOT HERE YET.



THIS IS BATMAN, CALLING INSPECTOR GORDON! COME IN, INSPECTOR GORDON, OVER!



SFX: RUSTLE



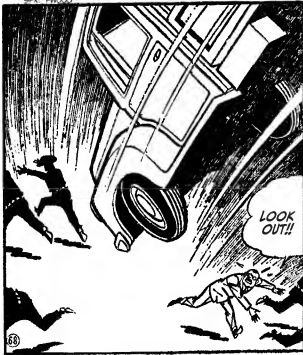
5PX: RUSTLE



9PX: RATATAT-TAT RATATAT-TAT

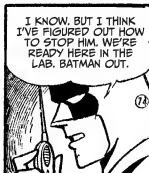
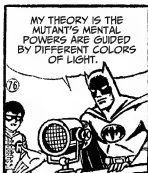


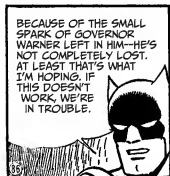
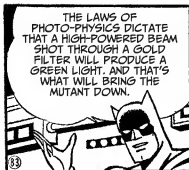
9PX: RATATAT-TAT RATATAT-TAT





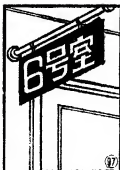
SFX: ROARRR





SFX: FLASH





SIGN: ROOM 6

SIGN: BOTHAM HOSPITAL



SFX: WHOOSH



The Charm of Kuwata's Version of Batman as a Scientific Detective

By Kosei Ono (Commentator)

"Kuwata-san's lines are really beautiful, aren't they? I admire them every time I look at them."

I heard that often from Kazumasa Hirai, the sci-fi novelist who teamed up with manga artist Jiro Kuwata to create 8 Man, the comic superhero that even became popular in the U.S. in its anime incarnation. Those words hold true for Kuwata's work on the Batman series as well, from 1966 to 1967.

At the time, the circulation of the American comic book Batman had reached its peak with 1,300,000 issues a month. The serialized Batman show airing on the ABC network made the character more popular than ever before, which drove up sales of the comic book version. The program was broadcast in color in Japan on Fuji TV from 1966-67, but I didn't have a color TV at my house, so the only way I could enjoy the one-hour show was by going to the TV station where I worked (on my day off) and watching it there.

This TV version of Batman was a product of the pop culture of its day and featured familiar villains Joker, Penguin, and Catwoman facing the dynamic duo of Batman (Adam West) and Robin (Burt Ward) in tongue-in-cheek battles.

However, the Batman comics of the same period can be said to have been the polar opposite of the excessively campy tone of the TV show. From the end of the 1950s and into the '60s, Batman's stories had become so unrealistic that the comic's popularity took a nosedive. The publisher responded by giving Batman a shot to the arm, returning the Dynamic Duo to its true scientific detective roots in 1964.

This is called the "New Look" Batman. Specifically, the bat emblem on Batman's chest was encased in a yellow oval, while Gotham's City Commissioner Gordon was now just a direct phone call *away* (Hotline) from Batman's secret Batcave. Then superb artists like Neal Adams, Carmine Infantino and others became Batman's main illustrators.

Kuwata's version of Batman is based on this "new look" In many of the stories, a scientist appears, followed the occurrence of some incident that revolves around the laboratory. In some cases, a scientific experiment gone awry would create super-powered villains. The story's circumstances are explained through the lens of science-fiction elements. It's very interesting that Kuwata has chosen to use characters from the new look era such as the unusual villain the Outsider and (albeit only briefly) Man-Bat. However, the Kuwata version doesn't employ any female villains, which can be attributed to the fact that the manga was meant to be like an action movie directed at young Japanese male readers. His dynamic panel design (for example, check out the pages in "The Monster of Gore Bay" where Batman has a dialogue-free showdown with the robotic monster!) is much easier to read than the American version and the sense of speed that the scenes have draws readers into the world of Kuwata's version of Batman.

Unlike the all-color pages of the American version, Kuwata's version (putting aside the colored title pages) is in black-and-white, where his sharp lines make the movements of Batman and the rest completely his own. Only this manga artist could draw such cool, solid, sharp lines that bring out a kind of beauty the color version lacks. This Batman is unmistakably Jiro Kuwata's work, and it's been revived right here.

The current American Batman has undergone a revolution since the 1980s. Ever since Frank Miller's take on the hero, Batman has been called the "Dark Knight." Meanwhile, the stories have gotten deeper, a trend that continues even today.





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BATMAN: THE JIRO KUWATA BATMANGA VOLUME 1

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In the 1960s, during the height of Bat-mania, mangaka (comic book creator) Jiro Kuwata was commissioned to write and draw a series of original Batman comics for the Japanese market. Many Western readers were only recently introduced to the existence of this unique take on the Caped Crusader. Now DC Comics presents the series in its entirety for the first time, fully translated and unabridged!

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